

**For CSS, PMS**

**Officers Academy**

**Master**

**World List**

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# 8

# Reviewing Vocabulary

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- GRE High-Frequency Words
- Master Word List
- Basic Word Parts

Now that you have mastered the appropriate strategies for dealing with the four basic types of questions on the Graduate Record Examination that test your verbal ability, you have the opportunity to spend some time refining your vocabulary and acquainting yourself with the fine shades of meaning that words possess. Studies show that, where the average high school graduate recognizes around 50,000 words, the average college graduate recognizes around 70,000. The increase indicates that during your four years of college you have rapidly acquired about 20,000 new words (many of them technical terms from a variety of disciplines), some of which may have connotations and nuances that still escape you.

The best way to develop a powerful vocabulary is to read extensively and well. However, it is possible to fine-tune your vocabulary by exploring unabridged dictionaries, in which usage notes make clear the fine distinctions between related words, and by studying high-level vocabulary lists, such as our 3,500-word Master Word List.

This chapter presents the Master Word List and a Basic Word Parts List, a chart of prefixes, roots, and suffixes that may provide you with clues to the meanings of unfamiliar words. The chapter begins with the GRE High-Frequency Word List, 333 words that have occurred and reoccurred on GREs published in the 1980s and 1990s.

## The GRE High-Frequency Word List

How many of the following words do you think you know? Help? Even more? First, check off those words that you recognize. Then, look up all 333 words and their definitions in our Master Word List. Pay particular attention to the following:

1. Words you recognize but cannot use in a sentence or define. You have a feel for these words—you are on the brink of knowing them. Effort you put into mastering these "borderline" words will pay off soon.
2. Words you thought you knew—but didn't. See whether any of them are defined in an unexpected way. If they are, make a special note of them. As you know from the preceding chapters, the GRE often stumps students with questions based on unfamiliar meanings of familiar-looking words.

In the course of your undergraduate career, you have undoubtedly developed your own techniques for building your vocabulary. One familiar technique—flash cards—often is used less than effectively. Students either try to cram too much information onto a flash card or try to cram too many flash cards into a practice session. If you wish to work with flash cards, try following these suggestions.

**Writing the Flash Card** Be brief—but include all the information you need. On one side write the word. On the

other side write a concise definition—two or three words at most—for each major meaning of the word you want to learn. Include an antonym, too: the synonym-antonym associations can help you remember both words. To fix the word in your mind, use it in a short phrase. Then write that phrase down.

**Memorizing the Flash Card** Carry a few of your flash cards with you every day. Look them over whenever you have a spare moment or two. Work in short bursts. Try going through five flash cards at a time, shuffling through them quickly so that you can build up your rapid sight recognition of the words for the test. You want these words and their antonyms to spring to your mind instantaneously.

Test your memory: don't look at the back of the card unless you must. Go through your five cards several times a day. Then, when you have mastered two or three of the cards and have them down pat, set those cards aside and add a couple of new ones to your working pile. That way you will always be working with a limited group, but you won't be wasting time reviewing words you already recognize on sight.

Never try to master a whole stack of flash cards in one long cram session. It won't work.

# GRE High-Frequency Words

abate	chicanery	disseminate	gainsay	latent
aberrant	coagulate	dissolution	gambolous	laud
abeyance	coda	dissonance	goad	lethargic
abscond	cogent	distend	gouge	levee
abstemious	commensurate	distill	grandiloquent	levity
admonish	compendium	diverge	gregarious	log
adulterate	compaisant	divest	guileless	loquacious
aesthetic	compliant	document [v.]	guilible	lucid
aggregate	conciliatory	dogmatic	harangue	luminous
alacrity	condone	dormant	homogeneous	magnanimity
alleviate	confound	dupe	hyperbole	malingerer
amalgamate	connoisseur	ebullient	iconoclastic	malleable
ambiguous	contention	eclectic	idolatry	maverick
ambivalence	contentious	efficacy	immutable	mendacious
ameliorate	contrite	effrontery	impair	metemorphosis
anachronism	conundrum	elegy	impassive	meticulous
analogous	converge	elicit	impede	misanthrope
anarchy	convoluted	embellish	impermeable	mitigate
anomalous	craven	empirical	imperturbable	mollify
antipathy	daunt	emulate	impervious	morose
apathy	decorum	endemic	implacable	mundane
appease	default	enervate	implicit	negate
apprise	deference	engender	implode	neophyte
approbation	delineate	enhance	inadvertently	obdurate
appropriate [v.]	denigrate	ephemeral	inchoate	obsequious
arduous	dende	equanimity	incongruity	obviate
artless	derivative	equivocate	inconsequential	occlude
ascetic	desiccate	erudite	incorporate	officious
assiduous	desultory	esoteric	indeterminate	onerous
assuage	deterrent	eulogy	indigence	opprobrium
attenuate	diatribe	euphemism	indolent	oscillate
audacious	dichotomy	exacerbate	inert	ostentatious
austere	diffidence	exculpate	ingenuous	paragon
autonomous	diffuse	exigency	inherent	partisan
aver	digression	extrapolation	innocuous	pathological
banal	dirge	facetious	insensible	paucity
belie	disabuse	facilitate	insinuate	pedantic
beneficent	discerning	fallacious	insipid	penchant
boister	discordant	fetuous	insularity	penury
bombastic	discredit	fawning	intractable	perennial
boorish	discrepancy	felicitous	intransigence	perfidious
burgeon	discrete	fervor	inundate	perfunctory
burnish	disingenuous	flag [v.]	inured	permeable
buttress	disinterested	fledgling	invective	pervasive
cacophonous	disjointed	flout	irascible	phlegmatic
capricious	dismiss	foment	irresolute	piety
castigation	disparage	forestall	itinerary	placate
catalyst	disparate	frugality	laconic	plasticity
caustic	dissemble	futile	lassitude	platitude

plethora	propitiate	rescind	sporadic	tractable
plummet	propriety	resolution	stigma	transgression
porous	proscribe	resolva	stint [v.]	truculence
pragmatic	pungent	reticent	stipulate	vacillate
preamble	qualified	reverent	stolid	venerate
precarious	quibbly	sage [N.]	striated	veracious
precipitate (ADJ.)	quiescent	salubrious	strut [N.]	verbose
precursor	rarefied	sanction	subpoena	viable
presumptuous	recalcitrant	satiated	subside	viscous
prevaricate	recant	saturate	substantiate	vituperative
pristine	recluse	savor	supersede	volatile
probity	recondite	secrete	supposition	warranted
problematic	refractory	shard	tacit	wary
prodigal	refute	skeptic	tangential	welter
profound	relegate	solicitous	tenuous	whimsical
prohibitive	reproach	soporific	tirade	zealot
proliferate	reprobate	specious	torpor	
propensity	repudiate	spectrum	tortuous	

## The 3,500-Word Master Word List

The 3,500-Word Master Word List begins on the following page. As a graduate student you should be familiar with the majority of these words. You do not, however, need to memorize every word.

The best way to enlarge your vocabulary is to read extensively in a variety of fields. You can, however, assess the extent of your vocabulary by exploring specialized word lists such as this one.

For those of you who wish to work your way through the word list and feel the need for a plan, we recommend that you follow the procedure described below in order to use the lists and the exercises most profitably:

1. Allot a definite time each day for the study of a list.
2. Devote at least one hour to each list.
3. First go through the list looking at the short, simple-looking words (seven letters at most). Mark those you don't know. In studying, pay particular attention to them.
4. Go through the list again looking at the longer words. Pay particular attention to words with more than one meaning and familiar-looking words with unusual definitions that come as a surprise to you. Many tests make use of these secondary definitions.
5. List unusual words on index cards, which you can shuffle and review from time to time. (Use the flash card technique described earlier in this chapter.)

6. Using the illustrative sentences in the list as models, make up new sentences on your own.
7. Take the test that follows each list at least one day after studying the words. In this way, you will check your ability to remember what you have studied.
8. If you can answer correctly 12 of the 15 questions in the test, you may proceed to the next list; if you cannot answer this number, restudy the list.
9. Keep a record of your guesses and of your success as a guesser.

For each word, the following is provided:

1. The word (printed in heavy type).
2. Its part of speech (abbreviated).
3. A brief definition.
4. A sentence or sentences illustrating the word's use.
5. Whenever appropriate, related words together with their parts of speech.

The word lists are arranged in strict alphabetical order. In each list, words that appear also on the High-Frequency GRE Word List are marked with a square bullet (■).

# Master Word List

## Word List 1

### abase-adroit

- ① **abase** v. lower; degrade; humiliate. Anna expected to have to curtsy to the King of Siam; when told to cast herself down on the ground before him, however, she refused to abase herself. *abatement, N.* شرف ریزی
- ② **abash** v. embarrass. He was not at all abashed by her open admiration. *عقدالرحمن کرنا - کم ہو جانا*
- ③ **abate** v. subside or moderate. Rather than leaving immediately, they waited for the storm to abate. *کم کرنا*
- ④ **abbreviate** v. shorten. Because we were running out of time, the lecturer had to abbreviate her speech. *ترب کر دینا*
- ⑤ **abdicate** v. renounce; give up. When Edward VIII abdicated the British throne, he surprised the entire world. *ایب کرنا*
- ⑥ **aberrant** ADJ. abnormal or deviant. Given the aberrant nature of the data, we came to doubt the validity of the entire experiment. *غیر معمولی*
- ⑦ **aberration** N. deviation from the expected or the normal; mental irregularity or disorder. Survivors of a major catastrophe are likely to exhibit aberrations of behavior because of the trauma they have experienced. *انحراف*
- ⑧ **abet** v. assist, usually in doing something wrong; encourage. She was unwilling to abet him in the swindle he had planned. *مدد کرنا*
- ⑨ **abeyance** N. suspended action. The deal was held in abeyance until her arrival. *تعلیق کرنا*
- ⑩ **abhor** v. detest; hate. She abhorred all forms of bigotry. *نفرت کرنا*
- ⑪ **abject** ADJ. wretched; lacking pride. On the streets of New York the homeless live in abject poverty, huddling in doorways to find shelter from the wind. *Pathetic*
- ⑫ **abjure** v. renounce upon oath. He abjured his allegiance to the king. *حلفا و دستبردار ہو جانا*
- ⑬ **ablution** N. washing. His daily ablutions were accompanied by loud noises that he humorously labeled "Opera in the Bath." *وضو کرنا*
- ⑭ **abnegation** N. renunciation; self-sacrifice. Though Rudolph and Duchess Flavia loved one another, their love was doomed, for she had to wed the king; their act of abnegation was necessary to preserve the kingdom. *انجی دانا*
- ⑮ **abolish** v. cancel; put an end to. The president of the college refused to abolish the physical education requirement. *انہی کو ختم کر دینا*
- ⑯ **abominable** ADJ. detestable; extremely unpleasant; very bad. Mary liked John until she learned he was also dating Susan; then she called him an abominable young man, with abominable taste in women. *نفرت کرنا*
- ⑰ **abominate** v. loathe; hate. Moses scolded the idol worshippers in the tribe because he abominated the custom. *نفرت کرنا*
- ⑱ **aboriginal** ADJ., N. being the first of its kind in a region; primitive; native. Her studies of the primitive art forms of the aboriginal Indians were widely reported in the scientific journals. *پیش رو*
- ⑲ **abortive** ADJ. unsuccessful; fruitless. Attacked by armed troops, the Chinese students had to abandon their abortive attempt to democratize Beijing peacefully. *رکڑنے والا - کوشش*
- ⑳ **abrasive** ADJ. rubbing away; tending to grind down. Just as abrasive cleaning powders can wear away a shiny finish, abrasive remarks can wear away a listener's patience. *خراش کرنا*
- ㉑ **abridge** v. condense or shorten. Because the publishers felt the public wanted a shorter version of War and Peace, they proceeded to abridge the novel. *کٹا کر دینا*
- ㉒ **abrogate** v. abolish. The king intended to abrogate the decree issued by his predecessor. *علیحدگی کرنا*
- ㉓ **abscission** N. cutting off; separation. When a flower or leaf separates naturally from the parent plant, this process is called abscission. *منفرد ہو جانا*
- ㉔ **abscond** v. depart secretly and hide. The teller who absconded with the bonds went uncaptured until someone recognized him from his photograph on America's Most Wanted. *پھرتا ہوا*
- ㉕ **absolute** ADJ. complete; totally unlimited; certain. Although the King of Siam was an absolute monarch, he did not want to behead his unfaithful wife without absolute evidence of her infidelity. *کس غلطی کی معافی دینا*
- ㉖ **absolve** v. pardon (an offense). The father confessor absolved him of his sins. *absolution, N.*
- ㉗ **abstain** v. refrain; withhold from participation. After considering the effect of alcohol on his athletic performance, he decided to abstain from drinking while he trained for the race. *مقاوم خور - پرہیز کرنا*
- ㉘ **abstemious** ADJ. sparing in eating and drinking; temperate. Concerned whether her vegetarian son's abstemious diet provided him with sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him. *پرہیز - ہاریز*
- ㉙ **abstinence** N. restraint from eating or drinking. The doctor recommended total abstinence from salted foods. *abstain, v.*
- ㉚ **abstract** ADJ. theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational. To him, hunger was an abstract concept; he had never missed a meal. *مشکل سے سمجھ آئی والا - دوراز کار*
- ㉛ **abstruse** ADJ. obscure; profound; difficult to understand. Baffled by the abstruse philosophical texts assigned in class, Dave asked Lexy to explain Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.
- ㉜ **abusive** ADJ. coarsely insulting; physically harmful. An abusive parent damages a child both mentally and physically. *بدسلوک - بدنام طراز، آڑ*

- عقصل ہونا - ساتھ ملے ہوئے ہونا
33. **abut** -v. border upon; adjoin. Where our estates *abut*, we must build a fence. گہرا حقیق - ناقابل پیمائش
34. **abysmal** ADJ. *bottomless*. His arrogance is exceeded only by his *abysmal* ignorance. دوزخ - اتھاہ علیج
35. **abyss** N. *enormous chasm*; vast, *bottomless* pit. Darth Vader seized the evil emperor and hurled him into the *abyss*.
36. **academic** ADJ. *related to a school*; not practical or directly useful. The dean's talk about reforming *academic* policies was only an *academic* discussion: we knew little, if anything, would change. تدریس
37. **accede** V. *agree*. If I *accede* to this demand for black-mail, I am afraid that I will be the victim of future demands.
38. **accelerate** V. *move faster*. In our science class, we learn how falling bodies *accelerate*.
39. **accessible** ADJ. *easy to approach*; obtainable. We asked our guide whether the ruins were *accessible* on foot.
40. **accessory** N. *additional object*; useful but not essential thing. She bought an attractive handbag as an *accessory* for her dress. also ADJ. بلند آواز سے اعلان
41. **acclaim** V. *applaud*; announce with great approval. The sportscasters *acclaimed* every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat. *ecclamation*, N. رسوں سے جانا - ملاری ہو جانا
42. **acclimate** V. *adjust to climate or environment*; adapt. One of the difficulties of our present air age is the need of travelers to *acclimate* themselves to their new and often strange environments. زمین کی چڑھاؤ
43. **acclivity** N. *sharp upslope of a hill*. The car could not go up the *acclivity* in high gear. میرٹھ کا کوئی اعزاز
44. **accolade** N. *award of merit*. In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest *accolade*.
45. **accommodate** V. *oblige or help someone*; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt. Mitch always did everything possible to *accommodate* his elderly relatives, from driving them to medical appointments to helping them with paperwork. (secondary meaning) شریک درم
46. **accomplice** N. *partner in crime*. Because he had provided the criminal with the lethal weapon, he was arrested as an *accomplice* in the murder. معاون
47. **accord** N. *agreement*. She was in complete *accord* with the verdict. پہلے سے مل کر ہونا
48. **accost** V. *approach and speak first to a person*. When the two young men *accosted* me, I was frightened because I thought they were going to attack me. اصل سے کس ہونا
49. **accoutre** V. *equip*. The fisherman was *accoutred* with the best that the sporting goods store could supply. *accoutrement*, N. اوزار و کتبہ
50. **accretion** N. *growth; increase*. Over the years Bob put on weight; because of this *accretion* of flesh, he went from size M to size XL. *accrete*, V. جمع - مزاح
51. **accrue** V. *come about by addition*. You must pay the interest that has *accrued* on your debt as well as the principal sum. *accrual*, N.
52. **acerbity** N. *bitterness of speech and temper*. The meeting of the United Nations Assembly was marked with such *acerbity* that observers held little hope of reaching any useful settlement of the problem. *acerbic*, ADJ. ترشی
53. **acetic** ADJ. *vinegary*. The salad had an exceedingly *acetic* flavor. کھڑا کھیرا - دل کا کھیرا
54. **acidulous** ADJ. *slightly sour; sharp; caustic*. James was unpopular because of his *sarcastic* and *acidulous* remarks. تندی
55. **acknowledge** V. *recognize; admit*. Although I *acknowledge* that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated nowadays, I still prefer them to the gangsta rap songs my brothers play. ملنے پرین مقام
56. **acme** N. *peak; pinnacle; highest point*. Welles's success in *Citizen Kane* marked the *acme* of his career as an actor; never again did he achieve such popular acclaim.
57. **acoustics** N. *science of sound*; quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in. Carnegie Hall is liked by music lovers because of its fine *acoustics*. دھار مٹھن ہونا
58. **acquiesce** V. *assent; agree passively*. Although she appeared to *acquiesce* to her employer's suggestions, I could tell she had reservations about the changes he wanted made. *acquiescence*, N.; *acquiescent*, ADJ. ہرے سے جانا
59. **acquittal** N. *deliverance from a charge*. His *acquittal* by the jury surprised those who had thought him guilty. *acquit*, V. تیز اور نچ بڑ
60. **acrid** ADJ. *sharp; bitterly pungent*. The *acrid* odor of burnt gunpowder filled the room after the pistol had been fired. بد خلق - بد اخلاق - ترش
61. **acrimonious** ADJ. *bitter in words or manner*. The candidate attacked his opponent in highly *acrimonious* terms. *acrimony*, N. بلندی کا خوف
62. **acrophobia** N. *fear of heights*. A born salesman, he could convince someone with a bad case of *acrophobia* to sign up for a life membership in a sky-diving club. حساب
63. **actuarial** ADJ. *calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics*. According to recent *actuarial* tables, life expectancy is greater today than it was a century ago. مشہور دنیا
64. **actuate** V. *motivate*. I fail to understand what *actuated* you to reply to this letter so nastily. چھین - تو بہلے میں تیز رفتاری
65. **acuity** N. *sharpness*. In time his youthful *acuity* of vision failed him, and he needed glasses. بیک بن - تیز رفتاری - بیک
66. **acumen** N. *mental keenness*. Her business *acumen* helped her to succeed where others had failed. معاملہ جرم
67. **acute** ADJ. *quickly perceptive; keen; brief and severe*. The *acute* young doctor realized immediately that the gradual deterioration of her patient's once-*acute* hearing was due to a chronic illness, not an *acute* one. تیز یا شدید - انتہائی خراب
68. **adage** N. *wise saying; proverb*. There is much truth in the old *adage* about fools and their money. ناقابل شکست
69. **adamant** ADJ. *hard; inflexible*. In this movie Bronson played the part of a revenge-driven man, *adamant* in his determination to punish the criminals who destroyed his family. *adamancy*, N. مصالحت پسند اکٹا
70. **adapt** V. *alter; modify*. Some species of animals have become extinct because they could not *adapt* to a changing environment.



اضافہ

71) addendum N. addition; appendix to book. Jane's editor approved her new comparative literature text but thought it would be even better with an addendum on recent developments in literary criticism.

72) addiction N. compulsive, habitual need. His addiction to drugs caused his friends much grief.

73) addle V. muddle; drive crazy; become rotten. This idiotic plan is confusing enough to addle anyone. addled, ADJ.

74) address V. direct a speech to; deal with or discuss. Due to address the convention in July, Brown planned to address the issue of low-income housing in his speech.

75) adept ADJ. expert at. She was adept at the fine art of irritating people. also N.

76) adhere V. stick fast. I will adhere to this opinion until proof that I am wrong is presented. adhesion, N.; adherence, N.

77) adherent N. supporter; follower. In the wake of the scandal, the senator's one-time adherents quietly deserted him.

Test

## Word List 1 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

1. ABASE (A) incur (B) tax (C) estimate (D) elope (E) humiliate
2. ABERRATION (A) deviation (B) abhorrence (C) dislike (D) absence (E) anecdote
3. ABET (A) conceive (B) wager (C) encourage (D) evade (E) protect
4. ABEYANCE (A) obedience (B) discussion (C) excitement (D) suspended action (E) editorial
5. ABJURE (A) discuss (B) renounce (C) run off secretly (D) perjure (E) project
6. ABLUTION (A) censure (B) forgiveness (C) mutiny (D) survival (E) washing
7. ABNEGATION (A) blackness (B) self-denial (C) selfishness (D) cause (E) effectiveness

## Word List 2 adulation-amend

78) adulation N. flattery; admiration. The rock star thrived on the adulation of his groupies and yes-men. adulate, V.

79) adulterate V. make impure by adding inferior or tainted substances. It is a crime to adulterate foods without informing the buyer, when consumers learned that Beechnut had adulterated its apple juice by mixing the juice with water, they protested vigorously. adulteration, N.

80) advent N. arrival. Most Americans were unaware of the advent of the Nuclear Age until the news of Hiroshima reached them.

81) adventitious ADJ. accidental; casual. She found this adventitious meeting with her friend extremely fortunate.

78) adjacent ADJ. adjoining; neighboring; close by. Philip's best friend Jason lived only four houses down the block, near but not immediately adjacent.

79) adjunct N. something (generally nonessential or inferior) added on or attached. Although I don't absolutely need a second computer, I plan to buy a laptop to serve as an adjunct to my desktop model. also ADJ.

80) adjuration N. solemn urging. Her adjuration to tell the truth did not change the witnesses' testimony. adjure, V.

81) adjutant N. staff officer assisting the commander, assistant. Though Wellington delegated many tasks to his chief adjutant, Lord Fitzroy Somerset, Somerset was in no doubt as to who made all major decisions.

82) admonish V. warn; reprove. He admonished his listeners to change their wicked ways. admonition, N.

83) adorn V. decorate. Wall paintings and carved statues adorned the temple. adornment, N.

84) adroit ADJ. skillful. Her adroit handling of the delicate situation pleased her employers.

8. ABORIGINE (A) first design (B) absolution (C) finale (D) concept (E) primitive inhabitant
9. ABORTIVE (A) unsuccessful (B) consuming (C) financing (D) familiar (E) fruitful
10. ABSTINENCE (A) restrained eating or drinking (B) vulgar display (C) deportment (D) reluctance (E) population
11. ABSTRUSE (A) profound (B) irrespective (C) suspended (D) protesting (E) not thorough
12. ABUT (A) stimulate (B) grasp (C) oppose (D) widen (E) adjoin
13. ABYSMAL (A) bottomless (B) eternal (C) meteoric (D) diabolic (E) internal
14. ACCEDE (A) fail (B) compromise (C) correct (D) consent (E) mollify
15. ACCLIVITY (A) index (B) report (C) upslope of a hill (D) character (E) negotiator

## Word List 2 adulation-amend

82) adversary N. opponent; enemy. Batman struggled to save Gotham City from the machinations of his wicked adversary, the Joker.

83) adverse ADJ. unfavorable; hostile. The recession had a highly adverse effect on Father's investment portfolio; he lost so much money that he could no longer afford the butler and the upstairs maid.

84) adversity N. poverty; misfortune. We must learn to meet adversity gracefully.

85) advert V. refer (to). Since you advert to this matter so frequently, you must regard it as important.



- 9- advocacy N. support; active pleading on behalf of someone or something. No threats could dissuade Bishop Desmond Tutu from his advocacy of the human rights of black South Africans.
- 10- advocate v. urge; plead for. The abolitionists advocated freedom for the slaves. also N.
- 11- aegis N. shield; defense. Under the aegis of the Bill of Rights, we enjoy our most treasured freedoms.
- 12- aerie N. nest of a large bird of prey (eagle, hawk). The mother eagle swooped down on the rabbit and bore it off to her aerie high in the Rocky Mountains.
- 13- aesthetic ADJ. artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciating the beautiful. The beauty of Tiffany's stained glass appealed to Alice's aesthetic sense. aesthete, N.
- 14- affable ADJ. easily approachable; warmly friendly. Accustomed to cold, aloof supervisors, Nicholas was amazed at how affable his new employer was. affability, N.
- 15- affected ADJ. artificial; pretended; assumed in order to impress. His affected mannerisms—his "Harvard" accent, his air of boredom, his use of obscure foreign words—bugged us; he acted as if he thought he was too good for his old high school friends. affection, N.
- 16- affidavit N. written statement made under oath. The court refused to accept her statement unless she presented it in the form of an affidavit.
- 17- affiliation N. joining; associating with. His affiliation with the political party was of short duration for he soon disagreed with his colleagues.
- 18- affinity N. kinship. She felt an affinity with all who suffered; their pains were her pains.
- 19- affirmation N. positive assertion; confirmation; solemn pledge by one who refuses to take an oath. Despite Tom's affirmations of innocence, Aunt Polly still suspected he had eaten the pie.
- 20- affix v. attach or add on; fasten. First the registrar had to affix his signature to the license; then he had to affix his official seal.
- 21- affliction N. state of distress; cause of suffering. Even in the midst of her affliction, Elizabeth tried to keep up the spirits of those around her.
- 22- affluence N. abundance; wealth. Foreigners are amazed by the affluence and luxury of the American way of life.
- 23- affront N. insult; offense; intentional act of disrespect. When Mrs. Proudle was not seated beside the Archdeacon at the head table, she took it as a personal affront and refused to speak to her hosts for a week. also v.
- 24- agape ADJ. openmouthed. She stared, agape, at the many strange animals in the zoo.
- 25- agenda N. items of business at a meeting. We had so much difficulty agreeing upon an agenda that there was very little time for the meeting.
- 26- agglomeration N. collection; heap. It took weeks to assort the agglomeration of miscellaneous items she had collected on her trip.
- 27- aggrandize v. increase or intensify; raise in power, wealth, rank or honor. The history of the past quarter century illustrates how a President may aggrandize his power to act aggressively in international affairs without considering the wishes of Congress.
- 28- aggregate v. gather; accumulate. Before the Wall Street scandals, dealers in so-called junk bonds managed to aggregate great wealth in short periods of time. also ADJ. aggregation, N.
- 29- aggressor N. attacker. Before you punish both boys for fighting, see whether you can determine which one was the aggressor.
- 30- aghost ADJ. horrified; dumbfounded. Miss Manners was aghost at the crude behavior of the fraternity brothers at the annual toga party.
- 31- agility N. nimbleness. The agility of the acrobat amazed and thrilled the audience.
- 32- agitate v. stir up; disturb. Her fiery remarks agitated the already angry mob.
- 33- agnostic N. one who is skeptical of the existence of a god or any ultimate reality. Agnostics say we can neither prove nor disprove the existence of God; we simply have no way to know. also ADJ.
- 34- agog ADJ. highly excited; intensely curious. We were all agog at the news that the celebrated movie star was giving up his career in order to enter a monastery.
- 35- agrarian ADJ. pertaining to land or its cultivation. As a result of its recent industrialization, the country is gradually losing its agrarian traditions.
- 36- alacrity N. cheerful promptness; eagerness. Phil and Dave were raring to get off to the mountains; they packed up their ski gear and climbed into the van with alacrity.
- 37- alchemy N. medieval chemistry. The changing of baser metals into gold was the goal of the students of alchemy. alchemist, N.
- 38- alcove N. nook; recess. Though their apartment lacked a full-scale dining room, an alcove adjacent to the living room made an adequate breakfast nook for the young couple.
- 39- alias N. an assumed name. John Smith's alias was Bob Jones. also ADV.
- 40- alienate v. make hostile; separate. Her attempts to alienate the two friends failed because they had complete faith in each other.
- 41- alimentary ADJ. supplying nourishment. The alimentary canal in our bodies is so named because digestion of foods occurs there. When asked for the name of the digestive tract, Sherlock Holmes replied, "Alimentary, my dear Watson."
- 42- alimony N. payments made to an ex-spouse after divorce. Because Tony had supported Tina through medical school, on their divorce he asked the court to award him \$500 a month in alimony.
- 43- allay v. calm; pacify. The crew tried to allay the fears of the passengers by announcing that the fire had been controlled.

گھنڈا دینا۔ دبانا۔ کم کرنا۔ پرسکون بنانا

- انزاع گانا

allege v. state without proof. Although it is alleged that she has worked for the enemy, she denies the allegation and, legally, we can take no action against her without proof. allegation, N. وفاداری

allegiance N. loyalty. Not even a term in prison could shake Lech Walesa's allegiance to Solidarity, the Polish trade union he had helped to found. مجازای قصه - تیشلی و فیه

allegory N. story in which characters are used as symbols, fable. *Pilgrim's Progress* is an allegory of the temptations and victories of the human soul. ellegorical, ADJ. مجاز و استعاره

alleviate v. relieve. This should alleviate the pain; if it does not, we shall have to use stronger drugs. تسکین یک ضعیف دروغ با او ادا کردن که بار بار از آن - منقبت و محبت

alliteration N. repetition of beginning sound in poetry. "The furrow followed free" is an example of alliteration.

allocate v. assign. Even though the Red Cross had allocated a large sum for the relief of the sufferers of the disaster, many people perished. محبت

alloy N. a mixture as of metals. Alloys of gold are used more frequently than the pure metal. کهریز و طلا

alloy v. mix; make less pure; lessen or moderate. Our delight at the Mets' victory was alloyed by our concern for Al Leites, who injured his pitching arm in the game.

allude v. refer indirectly. Try not to mention divorce in Jack's presence because he will think you are alluding to his marital problems with Jill. دروغت دلالتا - بچسبنا لینا

allure v. entice; attract. Allured by the song of the sirens, the helmsman steered the ship toward the reef. also N.

allusion N. indirect reference. When Amande said to the ticket scalper, "One hundred bucks? What do you want, a pound of flesh?" she was making an allusion to Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*. درباری به سید علی (دوست)

alluvial ADJ. pertaining to soil deposits left by running water. The farmers found the alluvial deposits at the mouth of the river very fertile.

aloof ADJ. apart; reserved. Shy by nature, she remained aloof while all the rest conversed. از نجاشی به - زمین و زمان

aloft ADV. upward. The sailor climbed aloft into the rigging. در بالا - در بالا - در بالا

altercation N. noisy quarrel, heated dispute. In that hot-tempered household, no meal ever came to a peaceful conclusion; the inevitable altercation sometimes even ended in blows. قیامت - قیامت - قیامت

altruistic ADJ. unselfishly generous, concerned for others. In providing tutorial assistance and college scholarships for hundreds of economically disadvan-

tagged youths, Eugene Lang performed a truly altruistic deed. altruism, N. مغایه بنانا

amalgamate v. combine; unite in one body. The unions will attempt to amalgamate their groups into one national body. در حیرت گانا - اکثرا بنانا

amass v. collect. The miser's aim is to amass and hoard as much gold as possible. جنگو خاگون

amazon N. female warrior. Ever since the days of Greek mythology we refer to strong and aggressive women as amazons. بهر گزیر - برضه مولا - دو بهتیا

ambidextrous ADJ. capable of using either hand with equal ease. A switch-hitter in baseball should be naturally ambidextrous. ماحول - فضا - گر دویش

ambience N. environment; atmosphere. She went to the restaurant not for the food but for the ambience.

ambiguous ADJ. unclear or doubtful in meaning. His ambiguous instructions misled us; we did not know which road to take. ambiguity, N. متناقضات و جهل

ambivalence N. the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes. Torn between loving her parents one minute and hating them the next, she was confused by the ambivalence of her feelings. ambivalent, ADJ. نرم دوستی - آسان روی

amble N. moving at an easy pace. When she first mounted the horse, she was afraid to urge the animal to go faster than a gentle amble. also v. آهسته - لذت

ambrosia N. food of the gods. Ambrosia was supposed to give immortality to any human who ate it. غلام گردش - خوش بخت

ambulatory ADJ. able to walk; not bedridden. Calvin was a highly ambulatory patient; not only did he refuse to be confined to bed, but also he insisted on riding his skateboard up and down the halls. بهر نیل - بهر نیل

ameliorate v. improve. Many social workers have attempted to ameliorate the conditions of people living in the slums. اصلاحت شعار - برضا جو - سرهم کردی و الا

amenable ADJ. readily managed or willing to be led; answerable or accountable legally. Although the ambassador was usually amenable to friendly suggestions, he balked when he hinted he should pay his parking tickets. As a foreign diplomat, he claimed he was not amenable to minor local laws.

amend v. correct; change, generally for the better. Hoping to amend his condition, he left Vietnam for the United States.

## Test

## Word List 2 Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

16. ADULATION (A) youth (B) purity (C) brightness (D) defense (E) criticism
17. ADVOCATE (A) define (B) oppose (C) remove (D) inspect (E) discern
18. AFFABLE (A) rude (B) ruddy (C) needy (D) useless (E) conscious

19. AFFECTED (A) weary (B) unfriendly (C) divine (D) unfeigned (E) slow
20. AFFLUENCE (A) poverty (B) fear (C) persuasion (D) consideration (E) neglect
21. AGILITY (A) awkwardness (B) solidity (C) temper (D) harmony (E) warmth
22. ALACRITY (A) slowness (B) plenty (C) filth (D) courtesy (E) despair
23. ALLEVIATE (A) endure (B) worsen (C) enlighten (D) maneuver (E) humiliate
24. ALLURE (A) hinder (B) repel (C) ignore (D) leave (E) wallow
25. ALOOF (A) triangular (B) gregarious (C) comparable (D) honorable (E) savory
26. AMALGAMATE (A) equip (B) separate (C) generate (D) materialize (E) repress
27. AMBIGUOUS (A) salvageable (B) corresponding (C) responsible (D) clear (E) auxiliary
28. AMBLE (A) befriend (B) hasten (C) steal (D) browse (E) prettle
29. AMBULATORY (A) convalescent (B) valedictory (C) bedridden (D) emergency (E) congenital
30. AMELIORATE (A) make slow (B) make sure (C) make young (D) make worse (E) make able

### Word List 3 amenities-apothecary

- ✓ 1 amenities *N. convenient features; courtesies.* In addition to the customary amenities for the business traveler—fax machines, modems, a health club—the hotel offers the services of a butler versed in the social amenities.
- ✓ 2 amiable *ADJ. agreeable; loveable; warmly friendly.* In *Little Women*, Beth is the amiable daughter whose loving disposition endears her to all who know her.
- ✓ 3 amicable *ADJ. politely friendly; not quarrelsome.* Beth's sister Jo is the hot-tempered tomboy who has a hard time maintaining amicable relationships with those around her. Jo's quarrel with her friend Laurie finally reaches an amicable settlement, but not because Jo turns amiable overnight.
- ✓ 4 amiss *ADJ. wrong; faulty.* Seeing her frown, he wondered if anything were amiss. also *ADV.*
- ✓ 5 amity *N. friendship.* Student exchange programs such as the Experiment in International Living were established to promote international amity.
- ✓ 6 amnesia *N. loss of memory.* Because she was suffering from amnesia, the police could not get the young girl to identify herself.
- ✓ 7 amnesty *N. pardon.* When his first child was born, the king granted amnesty to all in prison.
- ✓ 8 amoral *ADJ. nonmoral.* The amoral individual lacks a code of ethics; he cannot tell right from wrong. The immoral person can tell right from wrong; he chooses to do something he knows is wrong.
- ✓ 9 amorous *ADJ. moved by sexual love; loving.* "Love them and leave them" was the motto of the amorous Don Juan.
- ✓ 10 amorphous *ADJ. formless; lacking shape or definition.* As soon as we have decided on our itinerary, we shall send you a copy; right now, our plans are still amorphous.
- ✓ 11 amphibian *ADJ. able to live both on land and in water.* Frogs are classified as amphibian. also *N.*
- ✓ 12 amphitheater *N. oval building with tiers of seats.* The spectators in the amphitheater cheered the gladiators.
- ✓ 13 ample *ADJ. abundant.* Bond had ample opportunity to escape. Why, then, did he let us capture him?
- ✓ 14 amplify *V. broaden or clarify by expanding; intensify; make stronger.* Charlie Brown tried to amplify his remarks, but he was drowned out by jeers from the audience. Lucy was smarter; she used a loudspeaker to amplify her voice.
- ✓ 15 amputate *V. cut off part of body; prune.* When the doctors had to amputate Ted Kennedy's leg to prevent the spread of cancer, he did not let the loss of his leg keep him from participating in sports.
- ✓ 16 amok (also amuck) *ADV. in a state of rage.* The police had to be called in to restrain him after he ran amok in the department store.
- ✓ 17 amulet *N. charm; talisman.* Around her neck she wore the amulet that the witch doctor had given her.
- ✓ 18 anachronism *N. something or someone misplaced in time.* Shakespeare's reference to clocks in *Julius Caesar* is an anachronism; no clocks existed in Caesar's time. anachronistic, *ADJ.*
- ✓ 19 analgesic *ADJ. causing insensitivity to pain.* The analgesic qualities of this lotion will provide temporary relief.
- ✓ 20 analogous *ADJ. comparable.* She called our attention to the things that had been done in an analogous situation and recommended that we do the same.
- ✓ 21 analogy *N. similarity; parallelism.* A well-known analogy compares the body's immune system with an army whose defending troops are the lymphocytes or white blood cells.
- ✓ 22 anarchist *N. person who seeks to overturn the established government; advocate of abolishing authority.* Denying she was an anarchist, Katie maintained she wished only to make changes in our government, not to destroy it entirely.
- ✓ 23 anarchy *N. absence of governing body; state of disorder.* The assassination of the leaders led to a period of anarchy.
- ✓ 24 anathema *N. solemn curse; someone or something regarded as a curse.* The Ayatollah Khomeini heaped anathema upon "the Great Satan," that is, the United States. To the Ayatollah, America and the West were anathema; he loathed the democratic nations, cursing them in his dying words. anathematize, *V.*
- ✓ 25 ancestry *N. family descent.* David can trace his ancestry as far back as the seventeenth century, when one of his ancestors was a court trumpeter somewhere in Germany. ancestral, *ADJ.*
- ✓ 26 anchor *V. secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in place.* We set the post in concrete to anchor it in place. anchorage, *N.*

- 27 **ancillary** ADJ. serving as an aid or accessory; auxiliary. In an *ancillary* capacity Doctor Watson was helpful; however, Holmes could not trust the good doctor to solve a perplexing case on his own. also N.
- 28 **anecdote** N. short account of an amusing or interesting event. Rather than make concrete proposals for welfare reform, President Reagan told *anecdotes* about poor people who became wealthy despite their impoverished backgrounds.
- 29 **anemia** N. condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles. The doctor ascribes her tiredness to *anemia*. *anemic*, ADJ.
- 30 **anesthetic** N. substance that removes sensation with or without loss of consciousness. His monotonous voice acted like an *anesthetic*; his audience was soon asleep. *anesthesia*, N.
- 31 **anguish** N. acute pain; extreme suffering. Visiting the site of the explosion, the president wept to see the *anguish* of the victims and their families.
- 32 **angular** ADJ. sharp-cornered; stiff in manner. Mr. Spock's features, though *angular*, were curiously attractive, in a Vulcan way.
- 33 **animadversion** N. critical remark. He resented the *animadversions* of his critics, particularly because he realized they were true.
- 34 **animated** ADJ. lively; spirited. Jim Carrey's facial expressions are highly *animated*; when he played Ace Ventura, he was practically rubber-faced.
- 35 **animosity** N. active enmity. He incurred the *animosity* of the ruling class because he advocated limitations of their power.
- 36 **animus** N. hostile feeling or intent. The *animus* of the speaker became obvious to all when he began to indulge in sarcastic and insulting remarks.
- 37 **annals** N. records; history. In the *annals* of this period, we find no mention of democratic movements.
- 38 **anneal** V. reduce brittleness and improve toughness by heating and cooling. After the glass is *annealed*, it will be less subject to chipping and cracking.
- 39 **annex** V. attach; take possession of. Mexico objected to the United States' attempts to *annex* the territory that later became the state of Texas.
- 40 **annihilate** V. destroy. The enemy in its revenge tried to *annihilate* the entire population.
- 41 **annotate** V. comment; make explanatory notes. In the appendix to the novel, the critic sought to *annotate* many of the more esoteric references.
- 42 **annuity** N. yearly allowance. The *annuity* she set up with the insurance company supplements her social security benefits so that she can live very comfortably without working.
- 43 **annul** V. make void. The parents of the eloped couple tried to *annul* the marriage.  
*anodyne* N. drug that relieves pain; opiate. His pain was so great that no *anodyne* could relieve it.
- 44 **anoint** V. consecrate. The prophet Samuel *anointed* David with oil, crowning him king of Israel.
- 45 **anomalous** ADJ. abnormal; irregular. She was placed in the *anomalous* position of seeming to approve procedures that she despised.
- 46 **anomaly** N. irregularity. A bird that cannot fly is an *anomaly*.
- 47 **anonymity** N. state of being nameless; anonymousness. The donor of the gift asked the college not to mention her by name; the dean readily agreed to respect her *anonymity*. *anonymous*, ADJ.
- 48 **antagonism** N. hostility; active resistance. Barry showed his *antagonism* toward his new stepmother by ignoring her whenever she tried talking to him. *antagonistic*, ADJ.
- 49 **antecede** V. precede. The invention of the radiotelegraph *anteceded* the development of television by a quarter of a century.
- 50 **antecedents** N. preceding events or circumstances that influence what comes later; ancestors or early background. Susi Bechhofer's ignorance of her Jewish background had its *antecedents* in the chaos of World War II. Smuggled out of Germany and adopted by a Christian family, she knew nothing of her birth and *antecedents* until she was reunited with her Jewish family in 1989.
- 51 **antediluvian** ADJ. antiquated; extremely ancient. Looking at his great-aunt's antique furniture, which must have been cluttering up her attic since before Noah's flood, the young heir exclaimed, "Heavens! How positively *antediluvian*!"
- 52 **anthem** N. song of praise or patriotism. Let us now all join in singing the national *anthem*.
- 53 **anthology** N. book of literary selections by various authors. This *anthology* of science fiction was compiled by the late Isaac Asimov. *anthologize*, V.
- 54 **anthropoid** ADJ. manlike. The gorilla is the strongest of the *anthropoid* animals. also N.
- 55 **anthropologist** N. student of the history and science of humankind. *Anthropologists* have discovered several relics of prehistoric humans in this area.
- 56 **anthropomorphic** ADJ. having human form or characteristics. Primitive religions often have deities with *anthropomorphic* characteristics.
- 57 **anticlimax** N. letdown in thought or emotion. After the fine performance in the first act, the rest of the play was an *anticlimax*. *anticlimactic*, ADJ.
- 58 **antidote** N. remedy to counteract a poison or disease. When Marge's child accidentally swallowed some cleaning fluid, the local poison control hotline instructed Marge how to administer the *antidote*.
- 59 **antipathy** N. aversion; dislike. Tom's extreme *antipathy* for disputes keeps him from getting into arguments with his temperamental wife. Noise in any form is *antipathetic* to him. Among his other *antipathies* are honking cars, boom boxes, and heavy metal rock.
- 60 **antiquated** ADJ. obsolete; outdated. Accustomed to editing his papers on word processors, Philip thought typewriters were too *antiquated* for him to use.
- 61 **antiseptic** N. substance that prevents infection. It is advisable to apply an *antiseptic* to any wound, no matter how slight or insignificant. also ADJ.

✓ جواب دعوی

✓ (62) **antithesis** N. contrast; direct opposite of or to. This tyranny was the *antithesis* of all that he had hoped for, and he fought it with all his strength. *antithetical* or *antithetic*, ADJ.

✓ سکه آهن  
بلوک

✓ (63) **anvil** N. iron block used in hammering out metals. After heating the iron horseshoe in the forge, the blacksmith picked it up with his tongs and set it on the *anvil*.

✓ حس  
بیخودانی

✓ (64) **apathy** N. lack of caring; indifference. A firm believer in democratic government, she could not understand the *apathy* of people who never bothered to vote. *apathetic*, ADJ.

✓ نقل آمارتا

✓ (65) **ape** V. imitate or mimic. In the comedy *Young Frankenstein*, when the servant Igor limps off, saying, "Walk this way," the hero *apes* him, hobbling after Igor in an imitation of his walk. سوراخ

✓ (66) **aperture** N. opening; hole. She discovered a small *aperture* in the wall, through which the insects had entered the room. بلند ترین

✓ (67) **apex** N. tip; summit; climax. At the *apex* of his career, the star received offers of leading roles daily; two years later, he was reduced to taking bit parts in B-movies.

✓ قوت برائی  
میں خرابی

✓ (68) **aphasia** N. loss of speech due to injury or illness. After the automobile accident, the victim had periods of *aphasia* when he could not speak at all or could only mumble incoherently. مقوله - کہاوت

✓ (69) **aphorism** N. pithy maxim or saying. An *aphorism* is usually philosophic or scientific, as compared to an adage, which is usually more homely and concrete. "Absolute power corrupts absolutely" is an *aphorism*. "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink" is an adage. *aphoristic*, ADJ.

✓ (70) **apiary** N. a place where bees are kept. Although he spent many hours daily in the *apiary*, he was very seldom stung by a bee.

✓ معشوقی عیت - مگس خانہ

→ Apiculture → مگس بانی  
Test

✓ ضبط نفس

✓ (71) **aplomb** N. poise; assurance. Gwen's *aplomb* in handling potentially embarrassing moments was legendary around the office; when one of her clients broke a piece of her best crystal, she coolly picked up her own goblet and hurled it into the fireplace. کشفی - الہامی

✓ (72) **apocalyptic** ADJ. prophetic; pertaining to revelations. The crowd jeered at the street preacher's *apocalyptic* predictions of doom. The *Apocalypse* or *Book of Revelations* of Saint John prophesies the end of the world as we know it and foretells marvels and prodigies that signal the coming doom. *apocalypse*, غیر مستند - جعلی پیش گوئی

✓ (73) **apocryphal** ADJ. untrue; made up. To impress his friends, Tom invented *apocryphal* tales of his adventures in the big city. منتہائے کمال - کوئی دور ترین مقام

✓ (74) **apogee** N. highest point. When the moon in its orbit is furthest away from the earth, it is at its *apogee*. فیر سیکی

✓ (75) **apolitical** ADJ. having an aversion or lack of concern for political affairs. It was hard to remain *apolitical* during the Vietnam War; even people who generally ignored public issues felt they had to take *political* stands. عذر خواہ - معذرت کی جستجو

✓ (76) **apologist** N. one who writes in defense of a cause or institution. Rather than act as an *apologist* for the current regime in Beijing and defend its brutal actions, the young diplomat decided to defect to the West. مرتد - غدار

✓ (77) **apostate** N. one who abandons his religious faith or political beliefs. Because he switched from one party to another, his former friends shunned him as an *apostate*. *apostasy*, N. دوا فروش

✓ (78) **apothecary** N. druggist. In Holland, *apothecaries* still sell spices as well as ointments and pills.

## Word List 3 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

31. AMICABLE (A) penetrating (B) compensating (C) unfriendly (D) zigzag (E) inescapable
32. AMORAL (A) unusual (B) unfriendly (C) ethical (D) suave (E) firm
33. AMORPHOUS (A) nauseous (B) obscene (C) providential (D) definite (E) happy
34. AMPLIFY (A) distract (B) infer (C) publicize (D) decrease (E) pioneer
35. ANALOGOUS (A) not comparable (B) not capable (C) not culpable (D) not corporeal (E) not congenial
36. ANATHEMATIZE (A) locate (B) deceive (C) regulate (D) radiate (E) bless

37. ANEMIC (A) pallid (B) cruel (C) red-blooded (D) ventilating (E) hazardous
38. ANIMATED (A) worthy (B) dull (C) humorous (D) lengthy (E) realistic
39. ANIMUS (A) pterodactyl (B) bastion (C) giraffe (D) grimace (E) fever
40. ANOMALY (A) desperation (B) requisition (C) registry (D) regularity (E) radiation
41. ANONYMOUS (A) desperate (B) signed (C) defined (D) expert (E) written
42. ANTEDILUVIAN (A) transported (B) subtle (C) isolated (D) celebrated (E) modern
43. ANTIPATHY (A) profundity (B) objection (C) willingness (D) abstention (E) fondness
44. ANTITHESIS (A) velocity (B) maxim (C) similarity (D) acceleration (E) reaction
45. APHASIA (A) volubility (B) necessity (C) pain (D) crack (E) prayer



## Word List 4      apothegm-astigmatism

**apothegm** *N.* pithy, compact saying. Proverbs are **apothegms** that have become familiar sayings.

**apotheosis** *N.* elevation to godhood; an ideal example of something. The **apotheosis** of the Roman emperor was designed to ensure his eternal greatness: people would worship at his altar forever. The hero of the novel *Generation X* was the **apotheosis** of a slacker, the quintessential example of a member of his generation.

**appall** *V.* dismay; shock. We were **appalled** by the horrifying conditions in the city's jails.

**apparition** *N.* ghost; phantom. On the castle battlements, an **apparition** materialized and spoke to Hamlet, warning him of his uncle's treachery. In *Ghostbusters*, hordes of **apparitions** materialized, only to be dematerialized by the specialized apparatus wielded by Bill Murray.

■ **appease** *V.* pacify or soothe; relieve. Tom and Jody tried to **appease** the crying baby by offering him one toy after another. However, he would not calm down until they **appeased** his hunger by giving him a bottle. **appeasement**, *N.*

**appellation** *N.* name; title. Macbeth was startled when the witches greeted him with an incorrect **appellation**. Why did they call him Thane of Cawdor, he wondered, when the holder of that title still lived?

**append** *V.* attach. When you **append** a bibliography to a text, you have created an **appendix**.

**application** *N.* diligent attention. Pleased with how well Tom had whitewashed the fence, Aunt Polly praised him for his **application**. (secondary meaning) **apply**, *V.*

**apposite** *ADJ.* appropriate; fitting. She was always able to find the **apposite** phrase, the correct expression for every occasion.

**appraise** *V.* estimate value of. It is difficult to **appraise** old paintings; it is easier to call them priceless. **appraisal**, *N.*

**appreciate** *V.* be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of. Little Orphan Annie truly **appreciated** the stocks Daddy Warbucks gave her, whose value **appreciated** considerably over the years.

**apprehend** *V.* arrest (a criminal); dread; perceive. The police will **apprehend** the culprit and convict him before long.

**apprehensive** *ADJ.* fearful; discerning. His **apprehensive** glances at the people who were walking in the street revealed his nervousness.

■ **apprise** *V.* inform. When she was **apprised** of the dangerous weather conditions, she decided to postpone her trip.

■ **approbation** *N.* approval. Wanting her parents' regard, she looked for some sign of their **approbation**.

■ **appropriate** *V.* acquire; take possession of for one's own use. The ranch owners **appropriated** the lands that had originally been set aside for the Indians' use.

**appurtenances** *N.* subordinate possessions. He bought the estate and all its **appurtenances**.

**apropos** *PREP.* with reference to; regarding. I find your remarks **apropos** of the present situation timely and pertinent. also *ADJ.* and *ADV.*

**aptitude** *N.* fitness; talent. The counselor evaluated his **aptitudes** before advising him about the career he should follow.

**aquiline** *ADJ.* curved, hooked. He can be recognized by his **aquiline** nose, curved like the beak of the eagle.

**arable** *ADJ.* fit for growing crops. The first settlers wrote home glowing reports of the New World, praising its vast acres of **arable** land ready for the plow.

**arbitrator** *N.* person with power to decide a matter in dispute; judge. As an **arbitrator** in labor disputes, she has won the confidence of the workers and the employers.

**arbitrary** *ADJ.* unreasonable or capricious; tyrannical. The coach claimed the team lost because the umpire made some **arbitrary** calls.

**arbitrate** *V.* act as judge. She was called upon to **arbitrate** the dispute between the union and the management.

**arboretum** *N.* place where different varieties of trees and shrubs are studied and exhibited. Walking along the tree-lined paths of the **arboretum**, Rita noted poplars, firs, and some particularly fine sycamores.

**arcade** *N.* a covered passageway, usually lined with shops. The **arcade** was popular with shoppers because it gave them protection from the summer sun and the winter rain.

**arcane** *ADJ.* secret; mysterious; known only to the initiated. Secret brotherhoods surround themselves with **arcane** rituals and treppings to mystify outsiders. So do doctors. Consider the **arcane** terminology they use and the impression they try to give that what is **arcane** to us is obvious to them.

**archaeology** *N.* study of artifacts and relics of early mankind. The professor of **archaeology** headed an expedition to the Gobi Desert in search of ancient ruins.

**archaic** *ADJ.* antiquated. "Methinks," "thee," and "thou" are **archaic** words that are no longer part of our normal vocabulary.

**archetype** *N.* prototype; primitive pattern. The Brooklyn Bridge was the **archetype** of the many spans that now connect Manhattan with Long Island and New Jersey.

**archipelago** *N.* group of closely located islands. When he looked at the map and saw the **archipelagoes** in the South Seas, he longed to visit them.

**archives** *N.* public records; place where public records are kept. These documents should be part of the **archives** so that historians may be able to evaluate them in the future.

**ardor** *N.* heat; passion; zeal. Katya's **ardor** was contagious; soon all her fellow demonstrators were busily making posters and handing out flyers, inspired by her **ardent** enthusiasm for the cause. **ardent**, *ADJ.*

■ **arduous** *ADJ.* hard; strenuous. Her **arduous** efforts had sapped her energy.

**argot** *N.* slang. In the *argot* of the underworld, she "was taken for a ride."

**aria** *N.* operatic solo. At her Metropolitan Opera audition, Marian Anderson sang an *aria* from *Norma*.

**arid** *ADJ.* dry; barren. The cactus has adapted to survive in an *arid* environment.

**aristocracy** *N.* hereditary nobility; privileged class. Americans have mixed feelings about hereditary *aristocracy*: we say all men are created equal, but we describe particularly outstanding people as natural *aristocrats*.

**armada** *N.* fleet of warships. Queen Elizabeth's navy was able to defeat the mighty *armada* that threatened the English coast.

**aromatic** *ADJ.* fragrant. Medieval sailing vessels brought *aromatic* herbs from China to Europe.

**arraign** *V.* charge in court; indict. After his indictment by the Grand Jury, the accused man was *arraigned* in the County Criminal Court.

**array** *V.* marshal; draw up in order. His actions were bound to *array* public sentiment against him. also *N.*

**array** *V.* clothe; adorn. She liked to watch her mother *array* herself in her finest clothes before going out for the evening. also *N.*

**arrears** *N.* being in debt. He was in *arrears* with his payments on the car.

**arrhythmic** *ADJ.* lacking rhythm or regularity. The doctors feared his *arrhythmic* heartbeat might be the first symptom of an imminent heart attack. *arrhythmia*, *N.*

**arrogance** *N.* pride; haughtiness. Convinced that Emma thought she was better than anyone else in the class, Ed rebuked her for her *arrogance*.

**arroyo** *N.* gully. Until the heavy rains of the past spring, this *arroyo* had been a dry bed.

**arsenal** *N.* storage place for military equipment. People are forbidden to smoke in the *arsenal* lest a stray spark set off the munitions stored there.

**articulate** *ADJ.* effective; distinct. Her *articulate* presentation of the advertising campaign impressed her employers. also *V.*

**artifact** *N.* object made by human beings, either handmade or mass-produced. Archaeologists debated the significance of the *artifacts* discovered in the ruins of Asia Minor but came to no conclusion about the culture they represented.

**artifice** *N.* deception; trickery. The Trojan War proved to the Greeks that cunning and *artifice* were often more effective than military might.

**artisan** *N.* a manually skilled worker. Artists and *artisans* alike are necessary to the development of a culture.

■ **artless** *ADJ.* without guile; open and honest. Red Riding Hood's *artless* comment, "Grandma, what big eyes you have!" indicates the child's innocent surprise at her "grandmother's" changed appearance.

**ascendancy** *N.* controlling influence. President Marcos failed to maintain his *ascendancy* over the Philippines.

**ascertain** *V.* find out for certain. Please *ascertain* her present address.

■ **ascetic** *ADJ.* practicing self-denial; austere. The wealthy, self-indulgent young man felt oddly drawn to the strict, *ascetic* life led by members of some monastic orders. also *N.* asceticism, *N.*

**ascribe** *V.* refer; attribute; assign. I can *ascribe* no motive for her acts.

**aseptic** *ADJ.* preventing infection; having a cleansing effect. Hospitals succeeded in lowering the mortality rate as soon as they introduced *aseptic* conditions.

**ashen** *ADJ.* ash-colored; deadly pale. Her face was *ashen* with fear.

**asinine** *ADJ.* stupid. Your *asinine* remarks prove that you have not given this problem any serious consideration.

**askance** *ADV.* with a sideways or indirect look. Looking *askance* at her questioner, she displayed her scorn.

**askew** *ADV.* crookedly; slanted; at an angle. When the clown placed his hat *askew* upon his head, the children in the audience laughed.

**asperity** *N.* sharpness (of temper). These remarks, spoken with *asperity*, stung the boys to whom they had been directed.

**aspersion** *N.* slanderous remark. Do not cast *aspersions* on her character.

**aspirant** *N.* seeker after position or status. Although I am an *aspirant* for public office, I am not willing to accept the dictates of the party bosses. also *ADJ.*

**aspire** *V.* seek to attain; long for. Because he *aspired* to a career in professional sports, Philip enrolled in a graduate program in sports management. *aspiration*, *N.*

**assail** *V.* assault. He was *assailed* with questions after his lecture.

**assay** *V.* analyze; evaluate. When they *assayed* the ore, they found that they had discovered a very rich vein. also *N.*

**assent** *V.* agree; accept. It gives me great pleasure to *assent* to your request. also *N.*

**assert** *V.* state strongly or positively; insist on or demand recognition of (rights, claims, etc.). When Jill *asserted* that nobody else in the junior class had such an early curfew, her parents *asserted* themselves, telling her that if she didn't get home by nine o'clock she would be grounded for the week. *assertion*, *N.*

**assessment** *N.* estimation; appraisal. I would like to have your *assessment* of the situation in South Africa.

■ **assiduous** *ADJ.* diligent. It took Rembrandt weeks of *assiduous* labor before he was satisfied with his portrait of his son.

**assimilate** *V.* absorb; cause to become homogenous. The manner in which the United States was able to *assimilate* the hordes of immigrants during the nineteenth and early part of the twentieth centuries will always be a source of pride.

■ **assuage** *V.* ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger). Jilted by Jane, Dick tried to *assuage* his heartache by indulging in ice cream. One gelton later, he had *assuaged* his appetite but not his grief. *assuagement*, *N.*



**assumption** *n.* something taken for granted; the taking over or taking possession of. The young princess made the foolish *assumption* that the regent would not object to her *assumption* of power. *assume*, *v.*

**assurance** *n.* promise or pledge; certainty; self-confidence. When Guthrie gave Guinness his *assurance* that rehearsals were going well, he spoke with *such assurance* that Guinness was convinced. *assure*, *v.* *assured*, *ADJ.*

**asteroid** *n.* small planet. *Asteroids* have become commonplace to the readers of interstellar travel stories in science fiction magazines.

**astigmatism** *n.* eye defect that prevents proper focus. As soon as his parents discovered that the boy suffered from *astigmatism*, they took him to the optometrist for corrective glasses.

## Test

### Word List 4 *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

46. **APPEASE** (A) agitate (B) qualify (C) display (D) predestine (E) interrupt
47. **APPOSITE** (A) inappropriate (B) diagonal (C) exponential (D) unobtrusive (E) discouraging
48. **APPREHEND** (A) obviate (B) set free (C) shiver (D) understand (E) contrast
49. **APTITUDE** (A) sarcasm (B) inversion (C) adulation (D) lack of talent (E) gluttony
50. **AQUILINE** (A) watery (B) hooked (C) refined (D) antique (E) rodentlike
51. **ARCHAIC** (A) youthful (B) cautious (C) antiquated (D) placated (E) buttressed

52. **ARDOR** (A) zeal (B) paint (C) proof (D) group (E) excitement
53. **ARRAY** (A) swindle (B) lighten (C) strip bare (D) set free (E) cleanse
54. **ARROYO** (A) crevice (B) gully (C) value (D) food (E) fabric
55. **ARTIFICE** (A) spite (B) exception (C) anger (D) candor (E) loyalty
56. **ARTISAN** (A) educator (B) decider (C) sculptor (D) discourser (E) unskilled laborer
57. **ASCERTAIN** (A) amplify (B) master (C) discover (D) retain (E) explode
58. **ASPERITY** (A) anguish (B) absence (C) innuendo (D) good temper (E) snake
59. **ASSUAGE** (A) stuff (B) describe (C) wince (D) worsen (E) introduce
60. **ASTEROID** (A) Milky Way (B) radiance (C) large planet (D) rising moon (E) setting moon

### Word List 5 *astral-barb*

**astral** *ADJ.* relating to the stars. She was amazed at the number of *astral* bodies the new telescope revealed.

**astrigent** *ADJ.* binding; causing contraction; harsh or severe. The *astrigent* quality of the unsweetened lemon juice made swallowing difficult. also *n.*

**astronomical** *ADJ.* enormously large or extensive. The government seemed willing to spend *astronomical* sums on weapons development.

**astute** *ADJ.* wise; shrewd; keen. The painter was an *astute* observer, noticing every tiny detail of her model's appearance and knowing exactly how important each one was.

**asunder** *ADV.* into parts; apart. A fierce quarrel split the partnership *asunder*; the two partners finally sundered their connections because their points of view were poles *asunder*.

**asylum** *n.* place of refuge or shelter; protection. The refugees sought *asylum* from religious persecution in a new land.

**asymmetric** *ADJ.* not identical on both sides of a dividing central line. Because one eyebrow was set markedly higher than the other, William's face had a particularly *asymmetric* appearance. *asymmetry*, *n.*

**atavism** *n.* resemblance to remote ancestors rather than to parents; reversion to an earlier type; throwback. In his love for gardening, Martin seemed an *atavism* to his Tuscan ancestors who lavished great care on their small plots of soil. *atavistic*, *ADJ.*

**atheistic** *ADJ.* denying the existence of God. His *atheistic* remarks shocked the religious worshippers.

**atone** *v.* make amends for; pay for. He knew no way in which he could *atone* for his brutal crime.

**atrocious** *n.* brutal deed. In time of war, many *atrocities* are committed by invading armies.

**atrophy** *n.* wasting away. Polio victims need physiotherapy to prevent the *atrophy* of affected limbs. also *v.*

**attentive** *ADJ.* alert and watchful; considerate; thoughtful. Spellbound, the *attentive* audience watched the final game of the tennis match, never taking their eyes from the ball. A cold wind sprang up; Stan's *attentive* daughter slipped a sweater over his shoulders without distracting his attention from the game.

■ **attenuate** *v.* make thin; weaken. By *withdrawing* their forces, the generals hoped to *attenuate* the enemy lines.

**attest** v. testify; bear witness. Having served as a member of a grand jury, I can *attest* that our system of indicting individuals is in need of improvement.

**attribute** n. essential quality. His outstanding *attribute* was his kindness.

**attribute** v. ascribe; explain. I *attribute* her success in science to the encouragement she received from her parents.

**attrition** n. gradual decrease in numbers; reduction in the work force without firing employees; wearing away of opposition by means of harassment. In the 1960s urban churches suffered from *attrition* as members moved from the cities to the suburbs. Rather than fire staff members, church leaders followed a policy of *attrition*, allowing elderly workers to retire without replacing them.

**atypical** ADJ. not normal. The child psychiatrist reassured Mrs. Keaton that playing doctor was not *atypical* behavior for a child of young Alex's age. "Perhaps not," she replied, "but charging for house calls is!"

■ **audacious** ADJ. daring; bold. Audiences cheered as Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia made their *audacious*, death-defying leap to freedom and escaped Darth Vader's troops. *audacity*, n.

**audit** n. examination of accounts. When the bank examiners arrived to hold their annual *audit*, they discovered the embezzlements of the chief cashier. also v.

**augment** v. increase; add to. Armies *augment* their forces by calling up reinforcements; teachers *augment* their salaries by taking odd jobs.

**augury** n. omen; prophecy. He interpreted the departure of the birds as an *augury* of evil. *augur*, v.

**august** ADJ. impressive; majestic. Visiting the palace at Versailles, she was impressed by the *august* surroundings in which she found herself.

**aureole** n. sun's corona; halo. Many medieval paintings depict saintly characters with *aureoles* around their heads.

**auroral** ADJ. pertaining to the aurora borealis. The *auroral* display was particularly spectacular that evening.

**auspicious** ADJ. favoring success. With favorable weather conditions, it was an *auspicious* moment to set sail. Thomas, however, had doubts about sailing; a paranoid, he became suspicious whenever conditions seemed *auspicious*.

■ **austere** ADJ. forbiddingly stern; severely simple and unornamented. The headmaster's *austere* demeanor tended to scare off the more timid students, who never visited his study willingly. The room reflected the man, *austere* and bare, like a monk's cell, with no touches of luxury to moderate its *austerity*.

**authenticate** v. prove genuine. An expert was needed to *authenticate* the original Van Gogh painting, distinguishing it from its imitation.

**authoritarian** ADJ. subordinating the individual to the state; completely dominating another's will. The leaders of the *authoritarian* regime ordered the suppression of the democratic protest movement. After years of submitting to the will of her *authoritarian* father, Elizabeth Barrett ran away from home with the poet Robert Browning.

**authoritative** ADJ. having the weight of authority; peremptory and dictatorial. Impressed by the young researcher's well-documented presentation, we accepted her analysis of the experiment as *authoritative*.

**autocratic** ADJ. having absolute, unchecked power; dictatorial. A person accustomed to exercising authority may become *autocratic* if his or her power is unchecked. Dictators by definition are *autocrats*. Bosses who dictate behavior as well as letters can be *autocrats* too. *autocracy*, n.

**automaton** n. mechanism that imitates actions of humans. Long before science fiction readers became aware of robots, writers were creating stories of *automatons* who could outperform humans.

■ **autonomous** ADJ. self-governing. Although the University of California at Berkeley is just one part of the state university system, in many ways Cal Berkeley is *autonomous*, for it runs several programs that are not subject to outside control. *autonomy*, n.

**autopsy** n. examination of a dead body; postmortem. The medical examiner ordered an *autopsy* to determine the cause of death. also v.

**auxiliary** ADJ. offering or providing help; additional or subsidiary. To prepare for the emergency, they built an *auxiliary* power station. also n.

**avalanche** n. great mass of falling snow and ice. The park ranger warned the skiers to stay on the main trails, where they would be in no danger of being buried beneath a sudden *avalanche*.

**avarice** n. greediness for wealth. King Midas is a perfect example of *avarice*; he was so greedy that he wished everything he touched would turn to gold.

**avenge** v. take vengeance for something (or on behalf of someone). Hamlet vowed he would *avenge* his father's murder and punish Claudius for his horrible crime.

■ **aver** v. state confidently. I wish to *aver* that I am certain of success.

**averse** ADJ. reluctant; disinclined. The reporter was *averse* to revealing the sources of his information.

**aversion** n. firm dislike. Bert had an *aversion* to yuppies; Alex had an *aversion* to punks. Their mutual *aversion* was so great that they refused to speak to one another.

**avert** v. prevent; turn away. She *averted* her eyes from the dead cat on the highway.

**aviary** n. enclosure for birds. The *aviary* at the zoo held nearly 300 birds.

**avid** ADJ. greedy; eager for. He was *avid* for learning and read everything he could get. *avidity*, n.

**avocation** n. secondary or minor occupation. His hobby proved to be so fascinating and profitable that gradually he abandoned his regular occupation and concentrated on his *avocation*.

**avow** v. declare openly. Lana *avowed* that she never meant to steal Debbie's boyfriend, but no one believed her *avowal* of innocence.

**avuncular** ADJ. like an uncle. *Avuncular* pride did not prevent him from noticing his nephew's shortcomings.

**awe** *N.* solemn wonder. The tourists gazed with awe at the tremendous expanse of the Grand Canyon.

**awl** *N.* pointed tool used for piercing. She used an awl to punch additional holes in the leather belt she had bought.

**awry** *ADV.* distorted; crooked. He held his head awry, giving the impression that he had caught cold in his neck during the night. also *ADJ.*

**axiom** *N.* self-evident truth requiring no proof. Before a student can begin to think along the lines of Euclidean geometry, he must accept certain principles or axioms. *axiomatic*, *ADJ.*

**azure** *ADJ.* sky blue. Azure skies are indicative of good weather.

**babble** *V.* chatter idly. The little girl *babbled* about her doll. also *N.*

**bacchanalian** *ADJ.* drunken. Emperor Nero attended the *bacchanalian* orgy.

**badger** *V.* pester; annoy. She was forced to change her telephone number because she was *badgered* by obscene phone calls.

**badinage** *N.* teasing conversation. Her friends at work greeted the news of her engagement with cheerful *badinage*.

**baffle** *V.* frustrate; perplex. The new code *baffled* the enemy agents.

**bait** *V.* harass; tease. The school bully *baited* the smaller children, terrorizing them.

**baleful** *ADJ.* deadly; having a malign influence; ominous. The fortune teller made  *baleful* predictions of terrible things to come.

**balk** *V.* stop short, as if faced with an obstacle, and refuse to continue. The chief of police *balked* at sending his officers into the riot-torn area.

**balk** *V.* foil. When the warden learned that several inmates were planning to escape, he took steps to *balk* their attempt.

**ballast** *N.* heavy substance used to add stability or weight. The ship was listing badly to one side; it was necessary to shift the *ballast* in the hold to get her back on an even keel. also *V.*

**balm** *N.* something that relieves pain. Friendship is the finest *balm* for the pangs of disappointed love.

**balmy** *ADJ.* mild; fragrant. A *balmy* breeze refreshed us after the sultry blast.

**banal** *ADJ.* hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality. The hack writer's worn-out clichés made his comic sketch seem *banal*. He even resorted to the *banality* of having someone slip on a banana peel!

**bandy** *V.* discuss lightly or glibly; exchange (words) heatedly. While the president was happy to *bandy* patriotic generalizations with anyone who would listen to him, he refused to *bandy* words with unfriendly reporters at the press conference.

**bane** *N.* cause of ruin; curse. Lucy's little brother was the *bane* of her existence; his attempts to make her life miserable worked so well that she could have poisoned him with ratsbane for having such a *baneful* effect.

**bantering** *ADJ.* good-naturedly ridiculing. They resented his *bantering* remarks because they misinterpreted his teasing as sarcasm.

**barb** *N.* sharp projection from fishhook or other object; openly cutting remark. If you were a politician, which would you prefer, being caught on the *barb* of a fishhook or being subjected to malicious verbal *barbs*? Who can blame the president if he's happier fishing than he is listening to his critics' *barbed* remarks?

## Test

### Word List 5 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

61. ASTUTE (A) sheer (B) noisy (C) astral (D) unusual (E) clever
62. ATROCITY (A) endurance (B) fortitude (C) session (D) heinous act (E) hatred
63. ATROPHY (A) capture (B) waste away (C) govern (D) award prize (E) defeat
64. ATTENUATE (A) appear (B) be absent (C) weaken (D) testify (E) soothe
65. ATYPICAL (A) superfluous (B) fortitude (C) unusual (D) clashing (E) lovely
66. AUDACITY (A) boldness (B) asperity (C) strength (D) stature (E) anchorage

67. AUGMENT (A) make noble (B) anoint (C) increase (D) harvest (E) reach
68. AUXILIARY (A) righteous (B) prospective (C) assistant (D) archaic (E) mandatory
69. AVARICE (A) easiness (B) greed (C) statement (D) invoice (E) power
70. AVERT (A) entertain (B) transform (C) turn away (D) lead toward (E) displease
71. AWRY (A) recommended (B) commiserating (C) startled (D) crooked (E) psychological
72. BALEFUL (A) doubtful (B) virtual (C) deadly (D) conventional (E) virtuous
73. BALMY (A) venturesome (B) dedicated (C) mild (D) fanetic (E) memorable
74. BANAL (A) philosophical (B) trite (C) dramatic (D) heedless (E) discussed
75. BANEFUL (A) intellectual (B) thankful (C) decisive (D) poisonous (E) remorseful

## Word List 6      bard-bluff

**bard** *n.* poet. The ancient *bard* Homer sang of the fall of Troy.

**barefaced** *ADJ.* shameless; bold; unconcealed. Shocked by Huck Finn's *barefaced* lies, Miss Watson prayed the good Lord would give him a sense of his unregenerate wickedness.

**baroque** *ADJ.* highly ornate. Accustomed to the severe, angular lines of modern skyscrapers, they found the flamboyance of *baroque* architecture amusing.

**barrage** *n.* barrier laid down by artillery fire; overwhelming profusion. The company was forced to retreat through the *barrage* of heavy cannons.

**barrister** *n.* counselor-at-law. Galsworthy started as a *barrister*, but, when he found the practice of law boring, turned to writing.

**barterer** *n.* trader. The *barterer* exchanged trinkets for the natives' furs.

**bask** *v.* luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth. *Basking* on the beach, she relaxed so completely that she fell asleep.

**bastion** *n.* stronghold; something seen as a source of protection. The villagers fortified the town hall, hoping this improvised *bastion* could protect them from the guerrilla raids.

**bate** *v.* let down; restrain. Until it was time to open the presents, the children had to *bate* their curiosity. *bated*, *ADJ.*

**bauble** *n.* trinket; trifle. The child was delighted with the *bauble* she had won in the grab bag.

**bawdy** *ADJ.* indecent; obscene. Jack took offense at Jill's *bawdy* remarks. What kind of young man did she think he was?

**beatific** *ADJ.* giving bliss; blissful. The *beatific* smile on the child's face made us very happy.

**beatitude** *n.* blessedness; state of bliss. Growing closer to God each day, the mystic achieved a state of indescribable *beatitude*.

**bedizen** *v.* dress with vulgar finery. The witch doctors were *bedizened* in their gaudiest costumes.

**bedraggle** *v.* wet thoroughly. We were so *bedreggled* by the severe storm that we had to change into dry clothing. *bedraggled*, *ADJ.*

**beeline** *n.* direct, quick route. As soon as the movie was over, Jim made a *beeline* for the exit.

**befuddle** *v.* confuse thoroughly. His attempts to clarify the situation succeeded only in *befuddling* her further.

**beget** *v.* father; produce; give rise to. One good turn may deserve another; it does not necessarily *beget* another.

**begudge** *v.* resent. I *begudge* every minute I have to spend attending meetings.

**beguile** *v.* mislead or delude; cheat; pass time. With flattery and big talk of easy money, the con men *beguiled* Kyle into betting his allowance on the shell game. The men quickly *beguiled* poor Kyle of his money. Broke, he *beguiled* himself during the long hours by playing solitaire.

**behemoth** *n.* huge creature; something of monstrous size or power. Sportscasters nicknamed the linebacker "The *Behemoth*."

**beholden** *ADJ.* obligated; indebted. Since I do not wish to be *beholden* to anyone, I cannot accept this favor.

**behoove** *v.* be suited to; be incumbent upon. In this time of crisis, it *behooves* all of us to remain calm and await the instructions of our superiors.

**belabor** *v.* explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; assail verbally. The debate coach warned her student not to bore the audience by *belaboring* his point.

**belated** *ADJ.* delayed. He apologized for his *belated* note of condolence to the widow of his friend and explained that he had just learned of her husband's untimely death.

**beleaguer** *v.* besiege or attack; harass. The babysitter was surrounded by a crowd of unmanageable brats who relentlessly *beleaguered* her.

■ **belie** *v.* contradict; give a false impression. His coarse, hard-bitten exterior *belied* his innate sensitivity.

**belittle** *v.* disparage; deprecate. Parents should not *belittle* their children's early attempts at drawing, but should encourage their efforts.

**bellicose** *ADJ.* warlike. His *bellicose* disposition alienated his friends. *bellicosity*, *n.*

**belligerent** *ADJ.* quarrelsome. Whenever he had too much to drink, he became *belligerent* and tried to pick fights with strangers. *belligerence*, *n.*

**bemoan** *v.* lament; express disapproval of. The widow *bemoaned* the death of her beloved husband. Although critics *bemoaned* the serious flaws in the author's novels, each year his latest book topped the best-seller list.

**bemused** *ADJ.* confused; lost in thought; preoccupied. Jill studied the garbled instructions with a *bemused* look on her face.

**benediction** *n.* blessing. The appearance of the sun after the many rainy days was like a *benediction*.

**benefactor** *n.* gift giver; patron. Scrooge later became Tiny Tim's *benefactor* and gave him gifts.

■ **beneficent** *ADJ.* kindly; doing good. The overgenerous philanthropist had to curb his *beneficent* impulses before he gave away all his money and left himself with nothing.

**beneficial** *ADJ.* helpful; useful. Tiny Tim's cheerful good nature had a *beneficial* influence on Scrooge's once-uncharitable disposition.

**beneficiary** *n.* person entitled to benefits or proceeds of an insurance policy or will. In Scrooge's will, he made Tiny Tim his *beneficiary*; everything he left would go to young Tim.

**benevolent** *ADJ.* generous; charitable. Mr. Fezziwig was a *benevolent* employer who wished to make Christmas merrier for young Scrooge and his other employees. *benevolence*, *n.*

**benign** ADJ. kindly; favorable; not malignant. Though her *benign* smile and gentle bearing made Miss Marple seem a sweet little old lady, in reality she was a tough-minded, shrewd observer of human nature. **benignity**, N.

**benison** N. blessing. Let us pray that the *benison* of peace once more shall prevail among the nations of the world.

**bent** ADJ.; N. determined; natural talent or inclination. *Bent* on advancing in the business world, the secretary-heroine of *Working Girl* had a true *bent* for high finance.

**bequeath** V. leave to someone by means of a will; hand down. In his will, Father *bequeathed* his watch to Philip; the *bequest* meant a great deal to the boy. **bequest**, N.

**berate** V. scold strongly. He feared she would *berate* him for his forgetfulness.

**bereavement** N. state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved. His friends gathered to console him upon his sudden *bereavement*.

**bereft** ADJ. deprived of; lacking. The foolish gambler soon found himself *bereft* of funds.

**berserk** ADV. frenzied. Angered, he went *berserk* and began to wreck the room.

**beseech** V. beg; plead with. The workaholic executive's wife *beseeched* him to spend more time with their son.

**beset** V. harass or trouble; hem in. Many vexing problems *beset* the American public school system. Sleeping Beauty's castle was *beset* on all sides by dense thickets that hid it from view.

**besiege** V. surround with armed forces; harass (with requests). When the bandits *besieged* the village, the villagers holed up in the town hall and prepared to withstand a long siege. Members of the new administration were *besieged* with job applications from people who had worked on the campaign.

**besmirch** V. soil, defile. The scandalous remarks in the newspaper *besmirched* the reputations of every member of the society.

**bestial** ADJ. beastlike; brutal; inhuman. According to legend, the werewolf was able to abandon its human shape and assume a *bestial* form. The Red Cross sought to put an end to the *bestial* treatment of prisoners of war.

**bestow** V. confer. He wished to *bestow* great honors upon the hero.

**betoken** V. signify; indicate. The well-equipped docks, tall piles of cargo containers, and numerous vessels being loaded all *betokened* Oakland's importance as a port.

**betray** V. be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwillingly). The spy *betrayed* his country by selling military secrets to the enemy. When he was taken in for questioning, the tightness of his lips *betrayed* his fear of incriminating himself. **betrayal**, N.

**betroth** V. become engaged to marry. The announcement that they had become *betrothed* surprised their friends who had not suspected any romance. **betrothal**, N.

**bevy** N. large group. The movie actor was surrounded by a *bevy* of starlets.

**bicameral** ADJ. two-chambered, as a legislative body. The United States Congress is a *bicameral* body.

**bicker** V. quarrel. The children *bickered* morning, noon and night, exasperating their parents.

**biennial** ADJ. every two years. Seeing no need to meet more frequently, the group held *biennial* meetings instead of annual ones. Plants that bear flowers *biennially* are known as *biennials*.

**bifurcated** ADJ. divided into two branches; forked. With a *bifurcated* branch and a piece of elastic rubber, he made a crude but effective slingshot.

**bigotry** N. stubborn intolerance. Brought up in a democratic atmosphere, the student was shocked by the *bigotry* and narrowness expressed by several of his classmates.

**bilious** ADJ. suffering from indigestion; irritable. His *bilious* temperament was apparent to all who heard him rant about his difficulties.

**blitz** V. swindle; cheat. The con man specialized in *blitzing* insurance companies.

**billowing** ADJ. swelling out in waves; surging. Standing over the air vent, Marilyn Monroe tried vainly to control her *billowing* skirts.

**bivouac** N. temporary encampment. While in *bivouac*, we spent the night in our sleeping bags under the stars. also V.

**bizarre** ADJ. fantastic; violently contrasting. The plot of the novel was too *bizarre* to be believed.

**blanch** V. bleach; whiten. Although age had *blanched* his hair, he was still vigorous and energetic.

**bland** ADJ. soothing or mild; agreeable. Jill tried a *bland* ointment for her sunburn. However, when Jack absent-mindedly patted her on the sunburned shoulder, she couldn't maintain her *bland* persona. **blandness**, N.

**blandishment** N. flattery. Despite the salesperson's *blandishments*, the customer did not buy the outfit.

**blare** N. loud, harsh roar or screech; dazzling blaze of light. I don't know which is worse: the steady *blare* of a boom box deafening your ears or a sudden *blare* of flashbulbs dazzling your eyes. also V.

**blasé** ADJ. bored with pleasure or dissipation. Although Beth was as thrilled with the idea of a trip to Paris as her classmates were, she tried to act supercool and *blasé*, as if she'd been abroad hundreds of times.

**blasphemy** N. irreverence; sacrilege; cursing. In my father's house, the Dodgers were the holiest of holies; to cheer for another team was to utter words of *blasphemy*. **blasphemous**, ADJ.

**blatant** ADJ. extremely obvious; loudly offensive. Caught in a *blatant* lie, the scoundrel had only one regret: he wished that he had lied more subtly. **blatancy**, N.

**bleak** ADJ. cold or cheerless; unlikely to be favorable. The frigid, inhospitable Aleutian Islands are *bleak* military outposts. It's no wonder that soldiers assigned there have a *bleak* attitude toward their posting.

**blighted** ADJ. suffering from a disease; destroyed. The extent of the *blighted* areas could be seen only when viewed from the air.

**blithe** ADJ. gay; joyous. Shelley called the skylark a "*blithe* spirit" because of its happy song.

**bloated** ADJ. swollen or puffed as with water or air. Her *bloated* stomach came from drinking so much water.

**blowhard** N. talkative boaster. After all Sol's talk about his big show business connections led nowhere, Sally decided he was just another *blowhard*.

**bludgeon** N. club; heavy-headed weapon. Attacked by Dr. Moriarty, Holmes used his walking stick as a *bludgeon* to defend himself. "Watson," he said, "I fear I may have *bludgeoned* Moriarty to death."

**bluff** ADJ. rough but good-natured. Jack had a *bluff* and hearty manner that belied his actual sensitivity; he never let people know how thin-skinned he really was.

**bluff** N. pretense (of strength); deception; high cliff. Claire thought Lord Byron's boast that he would swim the Hellespont was just a *bluff*; she was astounded when he dove from the high *bluff* into the waters below.

## Test

### Word List 6 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

76. BAROQUE (A) polished (B) constant  
(C) transformed (D) simple (E) aglow

77. BEATIFIC (A) glorious (B) dreadful (C) theatrical  
(D) crooked (E) handsome

78. BELITTLE (A) disobey (B) forget (C) magnify  
(D) extol (E) envy

79. BELLICOSE (A) peaceful (B) naval (C) amusing  
(D) piecemeal (E) errant

80. BENIGN (A) tenfold (B) peaceful (C) blessed  
(D) wavering (E) malignant

81. BENISON (A) curse (B) bachelor (C) wedding  
(D) orgy (E) tragedy

82. BERATE (A) grant (B) praise (C) refer  
(D) purchase (E) deny

83. BESTIAL (A) animated (B) noble (C) zoological  
(D) clear (E) dusky

84. BIGOTRY (A) arrogance (B) approval  
(C) mourning (D) promptness (E) tolerance

85. BIZARRE (A) roomy (B) veiled (C) subdued  
(D) triumphant (E) normal

86. BLANCH (A) bleach (B) scatter (C) darken  
(O) analyze (E) subdivide

87. BLAND (A) caustic (B) meager (C) soft  
(D) uncooked (E) helpless

88. BLASÉ (A) fiery (B) clever (C) intriguing  
(D) slim (E) ardent

89. BLEAK (A) pale (B) sudden (C) dry (D) narrow  
(E) cheerful

90. BLITHE (A) spiritual (B) profuse (C) cheerless  
(D) hybrid (E) comfortable

### Word List 7 blunder-canter

**blunder** N. error. The criminal's fatal *blunder* led to his capture. also v.

**blurt** v. utter impulsively. Before she could stop him, he *blurted* out the news.

**bluster** v. blow in heavy gusts; threaten empty; bully. "Let the stormy winds *bluster*," cried Jack, "we'll set sail tonight." Jill let Jack *bluster*; she wasn't going anywhere, no matter what he said. also n.

**bode** v. foreshadow; portend. The gloomy skies and the sulfurous odors from the mineral springs seemed to *bode* evil to those who settled in the area.

**bogus** ADJ. counterfeit; not authentic. The police quickly found the distributors of the *bogus* twenty-dollar bills.

**bohemian** ADJ. unconventional (in an artistic way). Gertrude Stein ran off to Paris to live an eccentric, *bohemian* life with her writer friends. Oakland was not *bohemian*; it was too bourgeois, too middle-class.

**boisterous** ADJ. violent; rough; noisy. The unruly crowd became even more *boisterous* when he tried to quiet them.

■ **bolster** v. support; reinforce. The debaters amassed file boxes full of evidence to *bolster* their arguments.

**bolt** N. door bar; fastening pin or screw; length of fabric. The carpenter shut the workshop door, sliding the heavy metal *bolt* into place. He sorted through his toolbox for the nuts and *bolts* and nails required for the job. Before he cut into the *bolt* of canvas, he measured how much fabric he would need.

**bolt** v. dash or dart off; fasten (a door); gobble down. Jack was set to *bolt* out the front door, but Jill *bolted* the door. "Eat your breakfast," she said, "don't *bolt* your food."

**bombardment** N. attack (as with missiles). The enemy *bombardment* demolished the town. Members of the opposition party *bombarded* the prime minister with questions about the enemy attack.

■ **bombastic** ADJ. pompous; using inflated language. Puffed up with conceit, the orator spoke in such a *bombastic* manner that we longed to deflate him. **bombast** N.

**boon** N. blessing; benefit. The recent rains that filled our empty reservoirs were a *boon* to the whole community.

■ **boorish** ADJ. rude; insensitive. Though Mr. Potts constantly interrupted his wife, she ignored his *boorish* behavior, for she had lost hope of teaching him courtesy.



**bouillon** *n.* clear beef soup. The cup of *bouillon* served by the stewards was welcomed by those who had been chilled by the cold ocean breezes.

**bountiful** *adj.* abundant; graciously generous. Thanks to the good harvest, we had a *bountiful* supply of food and we could be as *bountiful* as we liked in distributing food to the needy.

**bourgeois** *adj.* middle class; selfishly materialistic; dully conventional. Technically, anyone who belongs to the middle class is *bourgeois*, but, given the word's connotations, most people resent it if you call them that.

**bovine** *adj.* cowlike; placid and dull. Nothing excites Esther; even when she won the state lottery, she still preserved her air of *bovine* calm.

**bowdlerize** *v.* expurgate. After the film editors had *bowdlerized* the language in the script, the motion picture's rating was changed from "R" to "PG."

**boycott** *v.* refrain from buying or using. To put pressure on grape growers to stop using pesticides that harmed the farm workers' health, Cesar Chavez called for consumers to *boycott* grapes. also *n.*

**brackish** *adj.* somewhat saline. He found the only wells in the area were *brackish*; drinking the water made him nauseous.

**braggadocio** *n.* boasting. He was disliked because his manner was always full of *braggadocio*.

**braggart** *n.* boaster. Modest by nature, she was no *braggart*, preferring to let her accomplishments speak for themselves.

**brandish** *v.* wave around; flourish. Alarmed, Doctor Watson wildly *brandished* his gun until Holmes told him to put the thing away before he shot himself.

**bravado** *n.* swagger; assumed air of defiance. The *bravado* of the young criminal disappeared when he was confronted by the victims of his brutal attack.

**brawn** *n.* muscular strength; sturdiness. It takes *brawn* to become a champion weight-lifter. *brawny*, *adj.*

**brazen** *adj.* insolent. Her *brazen* contempt for authority angered the officials.

**breach** *n.* breaking of contract or duty; fissure or gap. Jill sued Jack for *breach* of promise, claiming he had broken their engagement. The attackers found a *breach* in the enemy's fortifications and penetrated their lines. also *v.*

**breadth** *n.* width; extent. We were impressed by the *breadth* of her knowledge.

**brevity** *n.* conciseness. *Brevity* is essential when you send a telegram or cablegram; you are charged for every word.

**brindled** *adj.* tawny or grayish with streaks or spots. He was disappointed in the litter because the puppies were *brindled*; he had hoped for animals of a uniform color.

**bristling** *adj.* rising like bristles; showing irritation. The dog stood there, *bristling* with anger.

**brittle** *adj.* easily broken; difficult. My employer's *brittle* personality made it difficult for me to get along with her.

**broach** *v.* introduce; open up. Jack did not even try to *broach* the subject of religion with his in-laws. If you *broach* a touchy subject, the result may be a *breach*.

**brocade** *n.* rich, figured fabric. The sofa was covered with expensive *brocade*.

**brochure** *n.* pamphlet. This *brochure* of farming was issued by the Department of Agriculture.

**brooch** *n.* ornamental clasp. She treasured the *brooch* because it was an heirloom.

**brook** *v.* tolerate; endure. The dean would *brook* no interference with his disciplinary actions. (secondary meaning)

**browbeat** *v.* bully; intimidate. Billy resisted Ted's attempts to *browbeat* him into handing over his lunch money.

**browse** *v.* graze; skim or glance at casually. "How now, brown cow; *browsing* in the green, green grass." I remember lines of verse that I came across while *browsing* through the poetry section of the local bookstore.

**brunt** *n.* main impact or shock. Tom Sawyer claimed credit for painting the fence, but the *brunt* of the work fell on others. However, Tom bore the *brunt* of Aunt Polly's complaints when the paint began to peel.

**brusque** *adj.* blunt; abrupt. She was offended by his *brusque* reply.

**buccaneer** *n.* pirate. At Disneyland the Pirates of the Caribbean sing a song about their lives as bloody *buccaneers*.

**bucolic** *adj.* rustic; pastoral. Filled with browsing cows and bleating sheep, the meadow was a charmingly *bucolic* sight.

**buffet** *n.* table with food set out for people to serve themselves; meal at which people help themselves to food that's been set out. (*Buffet* rhymes with *tray*.) Please convey the soufflé on the tray to the *buffet*.

**buffet** *v.* slap; batter; knock about. To *buffet* something is to rough it up. (*Buffet* rhymes with *Muffett*.) Was Miss Muffett *buffeted* by the crowd on the way to the buffet tray?

**buffoonery** *n.* clowning. In the Ace Ventura movies, Jim Carrey's *buffoonery* was hilarious; like Bozo the Clown, he's a natural *buffoon*.

**bugaboo** *n.* bugbear; object of baseless terror. If we become frightened by such *bugaboos*, we are no wiser than the birds who fear scarecrows.

**bullion** *n.* gold and silver in the form of bars. Much *bullion* is stored in the vaults at Fort Knox.

**bulwark** *n.* earthwork or other strong defense; person who defends. The navy is our principal *bulwark* against invasion.

**bungle** *v.* mismanage; blunder. Don't botch this assignment, Bumstead; if you *bungle* the job, you're fired!

**buoyant** *adj.* able to float; cheerful and optimistic. When the boat capsized, her *buoyant* life jacket kept Jody afloat. Scrambling back on board, she was still in a *buoyant* mood, certain that despite the delay she'd win the race. *buoyancy*, *n.*

**bureaucracy** *n.* overregulated administrative system marked by red tape. The Internal Revenue Service is the ultimate *bureaucracy*; taxpayers wasted so much paper filling out IRS forms that the IRS *bureaucrats* printed up



a new set of rules requiring taxpayers to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act. *bureaucratic*, ADJ.

■ *burgeon* v. grow forth; send out buds. In the spring, the plants that *burgeon* are a promise of the beauty that is to come.

*burlesque* v. give an imitation that ridicules. In *Galaxy Quest*, Alan Rickman *burlesques* Mr. Spock of *Star Trek*, outrageously parodying Spock's unemotional manner and stiff bearing. also N.

■ *burnish* v. make shiny by rubbing; polish. The maid *burnished* the brass fixtures until they reflected the lamplight.

■ *buttress* v. support; prop up. Just as architects *buttress* the walls of cathedrals with flying *buttresses*, debaters *buttress* their arguments with facts. also N.

*buxom* ADJ. full-bosomed; plump; jolly. High-fashion models usually are slender rather than *buxom*.

*cabal* N. small group of persons secretly united to promote their own interests. The *cabal* was defeated when its scheme was discovered.

*cache* N. hiding place. The detectives followed the suspect until he led them to the *cache* where he had stored his loot. also v.

■ *cacophonous* ADJ. discordant; inharmonious. Do the students in the orchestra enjoy the *cacophonous* sounds they make when they're tuning up? I don't know how they can stand the racket. *cecophony*, N.

*cadaver* N. corpse. In some states, it is illegal to dissect *cadavers*.

*cadaverous* ADJ. like a corpse; pale. From his *cadaverous* appearance, we could see how the disease had ravaged him.

*cadence* N. rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sounds); beat. Marching down the road, the troops sang out, following the *cadence* set by the sergeant.

*cajole* v. coax; wheedle. Cher tried to *cajole* her father into letting her drive the family car. *cajolery*, N.

*calamity* N. disaster; misery. As news of the *calamity* spread, offers of relief poured in to the stricken community.

*calculated* ADJ. deliberately planned; likely. Lexy's choice of clothes to wear to the debate tournament was carefully *calculated*. Her conventional suit was *calculated* to appeal to the conservative judges.

*caldron* N. large kettle. "Why, Mr. Crusoe," said the savage heating the giant *caldron*, "we'd love to have you for dinner!"

*caliber* N. ability; quality. Einstein's cleaning the blackboards again? Albert, quit it! A man of your *caliber* shouldn't have to do such menial tasks.

*calligraphy* N. beautiful writing; excellent penmanship. As we examine ancient manuscripts, we become impressed with the *calligraphy* of the scribes.

*callous* ADJ. hardened; unfeeling. He had worked in the hospital for so many years that he was *callous* to the suffering in the wards. *callus*, N.

*callow* ADJ. youthful; immature; inexperienced. As a freshman, Jack was sure he was a man of the world; as a sophomore, he made fun of freshmen as *callow* youths. In both cases, his judgment showed just how *callow* he was.

*calorific* ADJ. heat-producing. Coal is much more *calorific* than green wood.

*calumny* N. malicious misrepresentation; slander. He could endure his financial failure, but he could not bear the *calumny* that his foes heaped upon him.

*camaraderie* N. good-fellowship. What he loved best about his job was the sense of *camaraderie* he and his coworkers shared.

*cameo* N. shell or jewel carved in relief; star's special appearance in a minor role in a film. Don't bother buying cameos from the street peddlers in Rome: the carvings they sell are clumsy jobs. Did you enjoy Bill Murray's *cameo* in *Little Shop of Horrors*? He was onscreen for only a minute, but he cracked me up.

*camouflage* v. disguise; conceal. In order to rescue Han Solo, Princess Leia *camouflaged* herself in the helmet and cloak of a space bandit. also N.

*canard* N. unfounded rumor; exaggerated report. It is almost impossible to protect oneself from such a base *canard*.

*candor* N. frankness; open honesty. Jack can carry *candor* too far: when he told Jill his honest opinion of her, she nearly slapped his face. *candid*, ADJ.

*canine* ADJ. related to dogs; doglike. Some days the *canine* population of Berkeley seems almost to outnumber the human population.

*canker* N. any ulcerous sore; any evil. Poverty is a *canker* in the body politic; it must be cured.

*canny* ADJ. shrewd; thrifty. The *canny* Scotsman was more than a match for the swindlers.

*canon* N. collection or authoritative list of books (e.g., by an author, or accepted as scripture); rule or standard set by ecclesiastical authority. Scholars hotly debated whether the newly discovered sonnet should be accepted as part of the Shakespearean *canon*.

*cant* N. insincere expressions of piety; jargon of thieves. Shocked by news of the minister's extramarital love affairs, the worshippers dismissed his talk about the sacredness of marriage as mere *cant*. *Cant* is a form of hypocrisy: those who can, pray; those who *cant*, pretend.

*cantankerous* ADJ. ill-humored; irritable. Constantly complaining about his treatment and refusing to cooperate with the hospital staff, he was a *cantankerous* patient.

*cantata* N. story set to music, to be sung by a chorus. The choral society sang the new *cantata* composed by its leader.

*canter* N. slow gallop. Because the racehorse had outdistanced its competition so easily, the reporter wrote that the race was won in a *canter*. also v.

## Test

Word List 7 *Synonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

91. BOISTEROUS (A) conflicting (B) noisy (C) testimonial (D) grateful (E) adolescent
92. BOMBASTIC (A) sensitive (B) pompous (C) rapid (D) sufficient (E) expensive
93. BOORISH (A) brave (B) oafish (C) romantic (D) speedy (E) dry
94. BOUILLON (A) insight (B) chowder (C) gold (D) clear soup (E) stew
95. BRACKISH (A) careful (B) salty (C) chosen (D) tough (E) wet
96. BRAGGADOCIO (A) weaponry (B) boasting (C) skirmish (D) encounter (E) position
97. BRAZEN (A) shameless (B) quick (C) modest (D) pleasant (E) melodramatic
98. BRINDLED (A) equine (B) pathetic (C) hasty (D) spotted (E) mild tasting
99. BROCHURE (A) opening (B) pamphlet (C) censor (D) bureau (E) pin
100. BUCOLIC (A) diseased (B) repulsive (C) rustic (D) twinkling (E) cold
101. BUXOM (A) voluminous (B) indecisive (C) convincing (D) plump (E) bookish
102. CACHE (A) lock (B) hiding place (C) tide (D) automobile (E) grappling hook
103. CACOPHONY (A) discord (B) dance (C) applause (D) type of telephone (E) rooster
104. CALLOW (A) youthful (B) holy (C) mild (D) colored (E) seated
105. CANDID (A) vague (B) outspoken (C) experienced (D) anxious (E) fallow

Word List 8 *canto-chameleon*

**canto** *N.* division of a long poem. Dante's poetic masterpiece *The Divine Comedy* is divided into *cantos*.

**canvass** *V.* determine or seek opinions, votes, etc. After *canvassing* the sentiments of his constituents, the congressman was confident that he represented the majority opinion of his district. also *N.*

**capacious** *ADJ.* spacious. In the *capacious* areas of the railroad terminal, thousands of travelers lingered while waiting for their trains.

**capacity** *N.* mental or physical ability; role; ability to accommodate. Mike had the *capacity* to handle several jobs at once. In his *capacity* as president of Selectronics he marketed an electronic dictionary with a *capacity* of 200,000 words.

**capillary** *ADJ.* having a very fine bore. The changes in surface tension of liquids in *capillary* vessels is of special interest to physicists. also *N.*

**capitulate** *V.* surrender. The enemy was warned to *capitulate* or face annihilation.

**caprice** *N.* whim. She was an unpredictable creature, acting on *caprice*, never taking thought of the consequences.

■ **capricious** *ADJ.* unpredictable; fickle. The storm was *capricious*; it changed course constantly. Jill was *capricious*, too; she changed boyfriends almost as often as she changed clothes.

**caption** *N.* title; chapter heading; text under illustration. The *captions* that accompany *The Far Side* cartoons are almost as funny as the pictures. also *V.*

**captious** *ADJ.* faultfinding. His criticisms were always *captious* and frivolous, never offering constructive suggestions.

**carafe** *N.* glass water bottle; decanter. With each dinner, the patron receives a *carafe* of red or white wine.

**carapace** *N.* shell covering the back (of a turtle, crab, etc.). At the children's zoo, Richard perched on top of the giant turtle's hard *carapace* as the creature slowly made its way around the enclosure.

**carat** *N.* unit of weight for precious stones; measure of fineness of gold. He gave her a diamond that weighed three *carats* and was mounted in an eighteen-carat gold band.

**carcinogenic** *ADJ.* causing cancer. Many supposedly harmless substances have been revealed to be *carcinogenic*.

**cardinal** *ADJ.* chief. If you want to increase your word power, the *cardinal* rule of vocabulary-building is to read.

**cardiologist** *N.* doctor specializing in ailments of the heart. When the pediatrician noticed Philip had a slight heart murmur, she referred him to a *cardiologist* for further tests.

**careen** *V.* lurch; sway from side to side. The taxicat *careened* wildly as it rounded the corner.

**caricature** *N.* distortion; burlesque. The *caricatures* he drew always emphasized personal weaknesses of the people he burlesqued. also *V.*

**carillon** *N.* a set of bells capable of being played. The *carillon* in the bell tower of the Coca-Cola pavilion at the New York World's Fair provided musical entertainment every hour.

**carnage** *N.* destruction of life. The film *The Killing Fields* vividly depicts the *carnage* wreaked by Pol Pot's followers in Cambodia.

**carnal** ADJ. fleshly. Is the public more interested in *carnal* pleasures than in spiritual matters? Compare the number of people who read *Playboy* daily to the number of those who read the Bible every day.

**carnivorous** ADJ. meat-eating. The lion's a *carnivorous* beast; a hunk of meat makes up his feast. A cow is not a *carnivore*; she likes the taste of grain, not gore.

**carousal** N. drunken revel. The party degenerated into an ugly *carousal*.

**carping** N. petty criticism; fault-finding. Welcoming constructive criticism, Lexy appreciated her editor's comments, finding them free of *carping*. also ADJ.

**carrion** N. rotting flesh of a dead body. Buzzards are nature's scavengers; they eat the *carrion* left behind by other predators.

**cartographer** N. map-maker. Though not a professional *cartographer*, Tolkien was able to construct a map of his fictional world.

**cascade** N. small waterfall. We were too tired to appreciate the beauty of the many *cascades* because we had to detour around them to avoid being drenched by the torrents *cascading* down.

**caste** N. one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society, social stratification; prestige. The differences created by *caste* in India must be wiped out if true democracy is to prevail in that country.

■ **castigation** N. punishment; severe criticism. Sensitive even to mild criticism, Woolf could not bear the *castigation* that she found in certain reviews. *castigate*, v.

**casualty** N. serious or fatal accident. The number of automotive *casualties* on this holiday weekend was high.

**cataclysm** N. deluge; upheaval. A *cataclysm* such as the French Revolution affects all countries. *cataclysmic*, ADJ.

■ **catalyst** N. agent that brings about a chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged. Many chemical reactions cannot take place without the presence of a *catalyst*.

**catapult** N. slingshot; hurling machine. Airplanes are sometimes launched from battleships by *catapults*. also v.

**cataract** N. great waterfall; eye abnormality. She gazed with awe at the mighty *cataract* known as Niagara Falls.

**catastrophe** N. calamity; disaster. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake was a *catastrophe* that destroyed most of the city. A similar earthquake striking today could have even more *catastrophic* results.

**catcall** N. shout of disapproval; boo. Every major league pitcher has off days during which he must learn to ignore *catcalls* and angry hisses from the crowd.

**catechism** N. book for religious instruction; instruction by question and answer. He taught by engaging his pupils in a *catechism* until they gave him the correct answer.

**categorical** ADJ. without exceptions; unqualified; absolute. Though the captain claimed he was never, never sick at sea, he finally qualified his *categorical* denial: he was "hardly ever" sick at sea.

**catharsis** N. purging or cleansing of any passage of the body. Aristotle maintained that tragedy created a *catharsis* by purging the soul of base concepts.

**cathartic** N. purgative. Some drugs act as laxatives when taken in small doses but act as *cathartics* when taken in much larger doses. also ADJ.

**catholic** ADJ. universal; wide-ranging liberal. He was extremely *catholic* in his taste and read everything he could find in the library.

**caucus** N. private meeting of members of a party to select officers or determine policy. At the opening of Congress the members of the Democratic Party held a *caucus* to elect the majority leader of the House and the party whip.

**caulk** v. to make watertight (by plugging seams). When water from the shower leaked into the basement, we knew it was time to *caulk* the tiles at the edges of the shower stall.

**causal** ADJ. implying a cause-and-effect relationship. The psychologist maintained there was a *causal* relationship between the nature of one's early childhood experiences and one's adult personality. *causality*, N.

■ **caustic** ADJ. burning; sarcastically biting. The critic's *caustic* remarks angered the hapless actors who were the subjects of his sarcasm.

**cauterize** v. burn with hot iron or caustic. In order to prevent infection, the doctor *cauterized* the wound.

**cavalcade** N. procession; parade. As described by Chaucer, the *cavalcade* of Canterbury pilgrims was a motley group.

**cavalier** ADJ. casual and offhand; arrogant. Sensitive about having her ideas taken lightly, Marcia felt insulted by Mark's *cavalier* dismissal of her suggestion.

**cavil** v. make frivolous objections. I respect your sensible criticisms, but I dislike the way you *cavil* about unimportant details. also N.

**cede** v. yield (title, territory) to; surrender formally. Eventually the descendants of England's Henry II were forced to *cede* their French territories to the King of France. *cession*, N.

**celerity** N. speed; rapidity. Hamlet resented his mother's *celerity* in remarrying within a month after his father's death.

**celestial** ADJ. heavenly. She spoke of the *celestial* joys that awaited virtuous souls in the hereafter.

**celibate** ADJ. abstaining from sexual intercourse; unmarried. Though the late Havelock Ellis wrote extensively about sexual customs and was considered an expert in such matters, recent studies maintain he was *celibate* throughout his life. *celibacy*, N.

**censor** N. overseer of morals; person who eliminates inappropriate matter. Soldiers dislike having their mail read by a *censor* but understand the need for this precaution. also v.

**ensorious** ADJ. critical. *Censorious* people delight in casting blame.

**censure** v. blame; criticize. The senator was *censured* for behavior inappropriate to a member of Congress. also n.

**centaur** n. mythical figure, half man and half horse. I was particularly impressed by the statue of the *centaur* in the Roman Hall of the museum.

**centigrade** ADJ. denoting a widely used temperature scale (basically same as Celsius). On the *centigrade* thermometer, the freezing point of water is zero degrees.

**centrifugal** ADJ. radiating; departing from the center. Many automatic drying machines remove excess moisture from clothing by *centrifugal* force.

**centrifuge** n. machine that separates substances by whirling them. At the dairy, we employ a *centrifuge* to separate cream from milk. also v.

**centripetal** ADJ. tending toward the center. Does *centripetal* force or the force of gravity bring orbiting bodies to the earth's surface?

**centurion** n. Roman army officer. Because he was in command of a company of one hundred soldiers, he was called a *centurion*.

**cerebral** ADJ. pertaining to the brain or intellect. The content of philosophical works is *cerebral* in nature and requires much thought.

**cerebration** n. thought. Mathematics problems sometimes require much *cerebration*.

**ceremonious** ADJ. marked by formality. Ordinary dress would be inappropriate at so *ceremonious* an affair.

**certitude** n. certainty. Though there was no *certitude* of his getting the job, Lou thought he had a good chance of being hired.

**cessation** n. stoppage. The airline's employees threatened a *cessation* of all work if management failed to meet their demands. **cease** v.

**cession** n. yielding to another; ceding. The *cession* of Alaska to the United States is discussed in this chapter.

**chafe** v. warm by rubbing; make sore (by rubbing). Chilled, he *chafed* his hands before the fire. The collar of his school uniform *chafed* Tom's neck, but not as much the school's strict rules *chafed* his spirit. also n.

**chaff** n. worthless products of an endeavor. When you separate the wheat from the *chaff*, be sure you throw out the *chaff*.

**chaffing** ADJ. bantering; joking. Sometimes Chad's flip-pant, *chaffing* remarks annoy us. Still, Chad's *chaffing* keeps us laughing.

**chagrin** n. vexation (caused by humiliation or injured pride); disappointment. Embarrassed by his parents' shabby, working-class appearance, Doug felt their visit to his school would bring him nothing but *chagrin*. A person filled with *chagrin* doesn't grin; he's too mortified.

**chalice** n. goblet; consecrated cup. In a small room adjoining the cathedral, many ornately decorated *chalices* made by the most famous European goldsmiths were on display.

**chameleon** n. lizard that changes color in different situations. Like the *chameleon*, he assumed the political coloration of every group he met.

## Test

### Word List 8 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

106. CAPACIOUS (A) warlike (B) cordial (C) curious (D) not spacious (E) not capable
107. CAPRICIOUS (A) satisfied (B) insured (C) photographic (D) scattered (E) steadfast
108. CAPTIOUS (A) tolerant (B) capable (C) frivolous (D) winning (E) recollected
109. CARNAL (A) impressive (B) minute (C) spiritual (D) actual (E) private
110. CARNIVOROUS (A) gloomy (B) tangential (C) productive (D) weak (E) vegetarian
111. CARPING (A) rapid (B) uncritical (C) unintellectual (D) illegal (E) terse

112. CASTIGATION (A) commendation (B) patience (C) generosity (D) understatement (E) honesty
113. CATEGORICAL (A) negative (B) ironic (C) impartial (D) qualified (E) permanent
114. CATHOLIC (A) religious (B) pacific (C) narrow (D) weighty (E) funny
115. CELERITY (A) assurance (B) state (C) acerbity (D) delay (E) infamy
116. CELIBATE (A) investing (B) married (C) retired (D) commodious (E) dubious
117. CENSURE (A) process (B) enclose (C) interest (D) praise (E) penetrate
118. CENTRIFUGAL (A) centripetal (B) ephemeral (C) lasting (D) barometric (E) algebraic
119. CESSATION (A) premium (B) gravity (C) beginning (D) composition (E) apathy
120. CHAFFING (A) achieving (B) serious (C) capitalistic (D) sneezing (E) expensive

## Word List 9 champion-colander

- champion** v. support militantly. Martin Luther King, Jr., won the Nobel Peace Prize because he *championed* the oppressed in their struggle for equality. also N.
- chaotic** ADJ. in utter disorder. He tried to bring order into the *chaotic* state of affairs. chaos, N.
- charisma** N. divine gift; great popular charm or appeal. Political commentators have deplored the importance of a candidate's *charisma* in these days of television campaigning.
- charlatan** N. quack; pretender to knowledge. When they realized that the Wizard didn't know how to get them back to Kansas, Dorothy and her friends were sure they'd been duped by a *charlatan*.
- chary** ADJ. cautious; sparing or restrained about giving. A prudent, thrifty New Englander, DeWitt was as *chary* of investing money in junk bonds as he was *chary* of paying people unnecessary compliments.
- chase** v. ornament a metal surface by indenting. With his hammer, he carefully *chased* an intricate design onto the surface of the chalice. (secondary meaning)
- chasm** N. abyss. They could not see the bottom of the *chasm*.
- chassis** N. framework and working parts of an automobile. Examining the car after the accident, the owner discovered that the body had been ruined but that the *chassis* was unharmed.
- chaste** ADJ. pure; virginal; modest. To ensure that his bride would stay *chaste* while he was off to the wars, the crusader had her fitted out with a *chastity* belt. chastity, N.
- chasten** v. discipline; punish in order to correct. Whom God loves, God *chastens*.
- chastise** v. punish. I must *chastise* you for this offense.
- chauvinist** N. blindly devoted patriot; zealous adherent of a group or cause. A *chauvinist* cannot recognize any faults in his country, no matter how flagrant they may be. Likewise, a male *chauvinist* cannot recognize how biased he is in favor of his own sex, no matter how flagrant that bias may be. chauvinistic, ADJ.
- check** v. stop motion; curb or restrain. Thrusting out her arm, Grandma *checked* Bobby's lunge at his sister. "Young man," she said, "you'd better *check* your temper." (secondary meaning)
- checkered** ADJ. marked by changes in fortune. During his *checkered* career he had lived in palatial mansions and in dreary boardinghouses.
- cherubic** ADJ. angelic; innocent-looking. With her cheerful smile and rosy cheeks, she was a particularly *cherubic* child.
- **chicanery** N. trickery; deception. Those sneaky lawyers misrepresented what occurred, made up all sorts of implausible alternative scenarios to confuse the jurors, and in general depended on *chicanery* to win the case.
- chide** v. scold. Grandma began to *chide* Steven for his lying.
- chimerical** ADJ. fantastically improbable; highly unrealistic; imaginative. As everyone expected, Ted's *chimerical* scheme to make a fortune by raising ermines in his backyard proved a dismal failure. chimera, N.
- chisel** N. wedgelike tool for cutting. With his hammer and *chisel*, the sculptor chipped away at the block of marble.
- chisel** v. swindle or cheat; cut with a chisel. That crook *chiseled* me out of a hundred dollars when he sold me that "marble" statue he'd *chiseled* out of some cheap hunk of rock.
- chivalrous** ADJ. courteous; faithful; brave. *Chivalrous* behavior involves noble words and good deeds.
- choleric** ADJ. hot-tempered. His flushed, angry face indicated a *choleric* nature.
- choreography** N. art of representing dances in written symbols; arrangement of dances. Merce Cunningham uses a computer in designing *choreography*; a software program allows him to compose arrangements of possible moves and immediately view them onscreen.
- chortle** v. chuckle with delight. When she heard that her rival had just been jailed for embezzlement, she *chortled* with joy. She was *not* a nice lady.
- chronic** ADJ. long established, as a disease. The doctors were finally able to attribute his *chronic* headaches and nausea to traces of formaldehyde gas in his apartment.
- chronicle** v. report; record (in chronological order). The gossip columnist was paid to *chronicle* the latest escapades of the socially prominent celebrities. also N.
- churlish** ADJ. boorish; rude. Dismayed by his *churlish* manners at the party, the girls vowed never to invite him again.
- ciliated** ADJ. having minute hairs. The paramecium is a *ciliated*, one-celled animal.
- cipher** N. nonentity; worthless person or thing. She claimed her ex-husband was a total *cipher* and wondered why she had ever married him.
- cipher** N. secret code. Lacking his code book, the spy was unable to decode the message sent to him in *cipher*.
- circlet** N. small ring; band. This tiny *circlet* is very costly because it is set with precious stones.
- circuitous** ADJ. roundabout. Because of the traffic congestion on the main highways, she took a *circuitous* route. circuit, N.
- circumlocution** N. indirect or roundabout expression. He was afraid to call a spade a spade and resorted to *circumlocutions* to avoid direct reference to his subject.
- circumscribe** v. limit; confine. Although I do not wish to *circumscribe* your activities, I must insist that you complete this assignment before you start anything else.
- circumspect** ADJ. prudent; cautious. Investigating before acting, she tried always to be *circumspect*.
- circumvent** v. outwit; baffle. In order to *circumvent* the enemy, we will make two preliminary attacks in other sections before starting our major campaign.

cistern *N.* reservoir or water tank. The farmers were able to withstand the dry season by using rainwater they had stored in an underground *cistern*.

citadel *N.* fortress. The *citadel* overlooked the city like a protecting angel.

cite *V.* quote; commend. She could *cite* passages in the Bible from memory. citation, *N.*

civil *ADJ.* having to do with citizens or the state; courteous and polite. Although Internal Revenue Service agents are *civil* servants, they are not always *civil* to suspected tax evaders.

clairvoyant *ADJ., N.* having foresight; fortuneteller. Cassandra's *clairvoyant* warning was not heeded by the Trojans. clairvoyance, *N.*

clamber *V.* climb by crawling. She *clambered* over the wall.

clamor *N.* noise. The *clamor* of the children at play outside made it impossible for her to take a nap. also *V.*

clandestine *ADJ.* secret. After avoiding their chaperon, the lovers had a *clandestine* meeting.

clangor *N.* loud, resounding noise. The blacksmith was accustomed to the *clangor* of hammers on steel.

clapper *N.* striker (tongue) of a bell. Wishing to be undisturbed by the bell, Dale wound his scarf around the *clapper* to muffle its striking.

clarion *ADJ.* shrill, trumpetlike sound. We woke to the *clarion* call of the bugle.

claustrophobia *N.* fear of being locked in. His fellow classmates laughed at his *claustrophobia* and often threatened to lock him in his room.

clavicle *N.* collarbone. Even though he wore shoulder pads, the football player broke his *clavicle* during a practice scrimmage.

cleave *V.* split or sever; cling to; remain faithful to. With her heavy *cleaver*, Julia Child can *cleave* a whole roast duck in two. Soaked through, the soldier tugged at the uniform that *cleaved* annoyingly to his body. He would *cleave* to his post, come rain or shine. cleavage, *N.* cloven, *ADJ.*

cleft *N.* split. Trying for a fresh handhold, the mountain climber grasped the edge of a *cleft* in the sheer rock-face. also *ADJ.*

clemency *N.* disposition to be lenient; mildness, as of the weather. The lawyer was pleased when the case was sent to Judge Smith's chambers because Smith was noted for her *clemency* toward first offenders.

cliché *N.* phrase dulled in meaning by repetition. High school compositions are often marred by such *clichés* as "strong as an ox."

clientele *N.* body of customers. The rock club attracted a young, stylish *clientele*.

climactic *ADJ.* relating to the highest point. When he reached the *climactic* portions of the book, he could not stop reading. climax, *N.*

clime *N.* region; climate. His doctor advised him to move to a milder *clime*.

clique *N.* small, exclusive group. Fitzgerald wished that he belonged to the *clique* of popular athletes and big men on campus who seemed to run Princeton's social life.

cloister *N.* monastery or convent. The nuns lived in the *cloister*.

clout *N.* great influence (especially political or social). Gatsby wondered whether he had enough *clout* to be admitted to the exclusive club.

cloying *ADJ.* distasteful (because excessive); excessively sweet or sentimental. Disliking the *cloying* sweetness of standard wedding cakes, Jody and Tom chose a home-made carrot cake for their reception. cloy, *V.*

■ coagulate *V.* thicken; congeal; clot. Even after you remove the pudding from the burner, it will continue to *coagulate* as it stands. coagulant, *N.*

coalesce *V.* combine; fuse. The brooks *coalesce* into one large river. When minor political parties *coalesce*, their *coalescence* may create a major coalition.

coalition *N.* partnership; league; union. The Rainbow *Coalition* united people of all races in a common cause.

■ coda *N.* concluding section of a musical or literary composition. The piece concluded with a distinctive *coda* that strikingly brought together various motifs.

coddle *V.* treat gently; pamper. Don't *coddle* the children so much; they need a taste of discipline.

codicil *N.* supplement to the body of a will. Miss Havisham kept her lawyers busy drawing up *codicils* to her already complicated will.

codify *V.* arrange (laws, rules) as a code; classify. We need to take the varying rules and regulations of the different health agencies and *codify* them into a national health code.

coercion *N.* use of force to get someone to obey. The inquisitors used both physical and psychological *coercion* to force Joan of Arc to recant her assertions that her visions were sent by God. coerce, *V.*

coeval *ADJ.* living at the same time as; contemporary. *Coeval* with the dinosaur, the pterodactyl flourished during the Mesozoic era.

cog *N.* tooth projecting from a wheel. A bicycle chain moves through a series of cogs in order to propel the bike.

■ cogent *ADJ.* convincing. It was inevitable that David chose to go to Harvard: he had several *cogent* reasons for doing so, including a full-tuition scholarship. Katye argued her case with such *cogency* that the jury had to decide in favor of her client.

cogitate *V.* think over. *Cogitate* on this problem; the solution will come.

cognate *ADJ.* related linguistically; allied by blood; similar or akin in nature. The English word "mother" is *cognate* to the Latin word "mater," whose influence is visible in the words "maternal" and "maternity." also *N.*



**cognitive** ADJ. having to do with knowing or perceiving related to the mental processes. Though Jack was emotionally immature, his *cognitive* development was admirable; he was very advanced intellectually.

**cognizance** N. knowledge. During the election campaign, the two candidates were kept in full *cognizance* of the international situation.

**cohabit** V. live together. Many unwed couples who *cohabit* peacefully for years wind up fighting night and day once they marry.

**cohere** V. stick together. Solids have a greater tendency to *cohere* than liquids.

**cohesion** N. tendency to keep together. A firm believer in the maxim "Divide and conquer," the emperor, by lies and trickery, sought to disrupt the *cohesion* of the free nations.

**cohorts** N. armed band. Caesar and his Roman *cohorts* conquered almost all of the known world.

**coiffure** N. hairstyle. You can make a statement with your choice of *coiffure*: In the '60's many African-Americans affirmed their racial heritage by wearing their hair in Afros.

**coin** V. make coins; invent or fabricate. Mints *coin* good money; counterfeiters *coin* fakes. Slanderers *coin* nasty rumors; writers *coin* words. A neologism is a newly *coined* expression.

**coincidence** N. the chance occurrence, at the same time, of two or more seemingly connected events. Was it just a *coincidence* that John and she had met at the market for three days running, or was he deliberately trying to seek her out? *coincidental*, ADJ.

**colander** N. utensil with perforated bottom used for straining. Before serving the spaghetti, place it in a *colander* to drain it.

## Test

### Word List 9      Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

121. CHASTE (A) loyal (B) timid (C) curt (D) pure (E) outspoken
122. CHIDE (A) unite (B) fear (C) record (D) skid (E) scold
123. CHIMERICAL (A) developing (B) brief (C) distant (D) economical (E) fantastic
124. CHOLERIC (A) musical (B) episodic (C) hotheaded (D) global (E) seasonal
125. CHURLISH (A) marine (B) economical (C) impolite (D) compact (E) young
126. CILATED (A) foolish (B) swift (C) early (D) constructed (E) hairy
127. CIRCUITOUS (A) indirect (B) complete (C) obvious (D) aware (E) tortured

128. CITE (A) galvanize (B) visualize (C) locate (D) quote (E) signal
129. CLANDESTINE (A) abortive (B) secret (C) tangible (D) doomed (E) approved
130. CLAUSTROPHOBIA (A) lack of confidence (B) fear of spiders (C) love of books (D) fear of grammar (E) fear of closed places
131. CLEFT (A) split (B) waterfall (C) assembly (D) adherence (E) surplus
132. CLICHÉ (A) increase (B) vehicle (C) morale (D) platitude (E) plique
133. COERCE (A) recover (B) begin (C) force (D) license (E) ignore
134. COGNIZANCE (A) policy (B) knowledge (C) advance (D) omission (E) examination
135. COHERE (A) hold together (B) occur simultaneously (C) recollect (D) materialize (E) understand

### Word List 10      collaborate-congenital

**collaborate** V. work together. Two writers *collaborated* in preparing this book.

**collage** N. work of art put together from fragments. Scraps of cloth, paper doilies, and old photographs all went into her *collage*.

**collete** V. examine in order to verify authenticity; arrange in order. They *colleted* the newly found manuscripts to determine their age.

**collateral** N. security given for loan. The sum you wish to borrow is so large that it must be secured by *collateral*.

**collation** N. a light meal. Tee sandwiches and cookies were offered at the *collation*.

**colloquial** ADJ. pertaining to conversational or common speech; informal. Some of the new *colloquial* reading passages on standardized tests have a conversational tone intended to make them more appealing to test-takers.

**colloquy** N. informal discussion. While a colloquium often is a formal seminar or conference, a *colloquy* traditionally is merely a conversational exchange.

**collusion** N. conspiring in a fraudulent scheme. The swindlers were found guilty of *collusion*.

**colossal** ADJ. huge. Radio City Music Hall has a *colossal* stage.



**colossus** *N.* gigantic statue. The legendary *Colossus* of Rhodes, a bronze statue of the sun god that dominated the harbor of the Greek seaport, was one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

**comatose** *ADJ.* in a coma; extremely sleepy. The long-winded orator soon had his audience in a *comatose* state.

**combustible** *ADJ.* easily burned. After the recent outbreak of fires in private homes, the fire commissioner ordered that all *combustible* materials be kept in safe containers. also *N.*

**comely** *ADJ.* attractive; agreeable. I would rather have a poor and *comely* wife than a rich and homely one.

**comestible** *N.* something fit to be eaten. The roast turkey and other *comestibles*, the wines, and the excellent service made this Thanksgiving dinner particularly memorable.

**comeuppance** *N.* rebuke; deserts. After his earlier rudeness, we were delighted to see him get his *comeuppance*.

**comity** *N.* courtesy; civility. A spirit of *comity* should exist among nations.

**commandeer** *V.* to draft for military purposes; to take for public use. The policeman *commandeered* the first car that approached and ordered the driver to go to the nearest hospital.

**commemorative** *ADJ.* remembering; honoring. The new *commemorative* stamp honors the late Martin Luther King, Jr.

■ **commensurate** *ADJ.* equal in extent. Your reward will be *commensurate* with your effort.

**commiserate** *V.* feel or express pity or sympathy for. Her friends *commiserated* with the widow.

**commodious** *ADJ.* spacious and comfortable. After sleeping in small roadside cabins, they found their hotel suite *commodious*.

**communal** *ADJ.* held in common; a group of people. When they were divorced, they had trouble dividing their *communal* property.

**compact** *N.* agreement; contract. The signers of the Mayflower *Compact* were establishing a form of government.

**compact** *ADJ.* tightly packed; firm; brief. His short, *compact* body was better suited to wrestling than to basketball.

**compatible** *ADJ.* harmonious; in harmony with. They were *compatible* neighbors, never quarreling over unimportant matters. *compatibility*, *N.*

**compelling** *ADJ.* overpowering; irresistible in effect. The prosecutor presented a well-reasoned case, but the defense attorney's *compelling* arguments for leniency won over the jury.

■ **compendium** *V.* brief, comprehensive summary. This text can serve as a *compendium* of the tremendous amount of new material being developed in this field.

**compensatory** *ADJ.* making up for; repaying. Can a *compensatory* education program make up for the inadequate schooling he received in earlier years?

**compilation** *N.* listing of statistical information in tabular or book form. The *compilation* of available scholarships serves a very valuable purpose.

**compile** *V.* assemble; gather; accumulate. We planned to *compile* a list of the words most frequently used on the GRE.

**complacency** *N.* self-satisfaction; smugness. Full of *complacency* about his latest victories, he looked smugly at the row of trophies on his mantelpiece. *complacent*, *ADJ.*

■ **complaisant** *ADJ.* trying to please; obliging. The courtier obeyed the king's orders in a *complaisant* manner.

**complement** *V.* complete; consummate; make perfect. The waiter recommended a glass of port to *complement* the cheese. also *N.*

**complementary** *ADJ.* serving to complete something. John's and Lexy's skills are *complementary*: he's good at following a daily routine, while she's great at improvising and handling emergencies. Together they make a great team.

**compliance** *N.* readiness to yield; conformity in fulfilling requirements. Bullheaded Bill was not noted for his easy *compliance* to the demands of others. As an architect, however, Bill recognized that his design for the new school had to be in *compliance* with the local building code.

■ **compliant** *ADJ.* yielding; conforming to requirements. Because Joel usually gave in and went along with whatever his friends desired, his mother worried that he might be too *compliant*.

**complicity** *N.* participation; involvement. You cannot keep your *complicity* in this affair secret very long; you would be wise to admit your involvement immediately.

**component** *N.* element; ingredient. I wish all the *components* of my stereo system were working at the same time.

**comport** *V.* bear one's self; behave. He *comported* himself with great dignity.

**composure** *N.* mental calmness. Even the latest work crisis failed to shake her *composure*.

**compound** *V.* combine; constitute; pay interest; increase. The makers of the popular cold remedy *compounded* a nasal decongestant with an antihistamine. also *N.*

**comprehensive** *ADJ.* thorough; inclusive. This book provides a *comprehensive* review of verbal and math skills for the GRE.

**compress** *V.* close; squeeze; contract. She *compressed* the package under her arm.

**comprise** *V.* include; consist of. If the District of Columbia were to be granted statehood, the United States of America would *comprise* fifty-one states, not just fifty.

**compromise** *V.* adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of. Sometimes the presence of a neutral third party can help adversaries *compromise* their differences. Unfortunately, you're not neutral. Therefore, your presence here *compromises* our chances of reaching an agreement. also *N.*

**compunction** *N.* remorse. The judge was especially severe in his sentencing because he felt that the criminal had shown no *compunction* for his heinous crime.

**compute** v. reckon; calculate. He failed to *compute* the interest, so his bank balance was not accurate.

**concatenate** v. link as in a chain. It is difficult to understand how these events could *concatenate* as they did without outside assistance.

**concave** ADJ. hollow. The back-packers found partial shelter from the storm by huddling against the *concave* wall of the cliff.

**concede** v. admit; yield. Despite all the evidence Monica had assembled, Mark refused to *concede* that she was right.

**conceit** N. vanity or self-love; whimsical idea; extravagant metaphor. Although Jack was smug and puffed up with *conceit*, he was an entertaining companion, always expressing himself in amusing *conceits* and witty turns of phrase.

**concentric** ADJ. having a common center. The target was made of *concentric* circles.

**conception** N. beginning; forming of an idea. At the first *conception* of the work, he was consulted. *conceive*, v.

**concerted** ADJ. mutually agreed on; done together. All the Girl Scouts made a *concerted* effort to raise funds for their annual outing. When the movie star appeared, his fans let out a *concerted* sigh.

**concession** N. an act of yielding. Before they could reach an agreement, both sides had to make certain *concessions*.

■ **conciliatory** ADJ. reconciling; soothing. She was still angry despite his *conciliatory* words. *conciliate*, v.

**concise** ADJ. brief and compact. When you define a new word, be *concise*: the shorter the definition, the easier it is to remember.

**conclave** N. private meeting. He was present at all their *conclaves* as an unofficial observer.

**conclusive** ADJ. decisive; ending all debate. When the stolen books turned up in John's locker, we finally had *conclusive* evidence of the identity of the mysterious thief.

**concoct** v. prepare by combining; make up in concert. How did the inventive chef ever *concoct* such a strange dish? *concoction*, N.

**concomitant** N. that which accompanies. Culture is not always a *concomitant* of wealth. also ADJ.

**concord** N. harmony. Watching Tweedledum and Tweedledee battle, Alice wondered why the two brothers could not manage to live in *concord*.

**concur** v. agree. Did you *concur* with the decision of the court or did you find it unfair?

**concurrent** ADJ. happening at the same time. In America, the colonists were resisting the demands of the mother country; at the *concurrent* moment in France, the middle class was sowing the seeds of rebellion.

**condescend** v. bestow courtesies with a superior air. The king *condescended* to grant an audience to the friends of the condemned man. *condescension*, N.

**condign** ADJ. adequate; deservedly severe. The public approved the *condign* punishment for the crime.

**condiments** N. seasonings; spices. Spanish food is full of *condiments*.

**condole** v. express sympathetic sorrow. His friends gathered to *condole* with him over his loss. *condolence*, N.

■ **condone** v. overlook; forgive; give tacit approval; excuse. Unlike Widow Douglass, who *condoned* Huck's minor offenses, Miss Watson did nothing but scold.

**conducive** ADJ. helpful; contributive. Rest and proper diet are *conducive* to good health.

**conduit** N. aqueduct; passageway for fluids. Water was brought to the army in the desert by an improvised *conduit* from the adjoining mountain.

**confidant** N. trusted friend. He had no *confidants* with whom he could discuss his problems at home.

**confine** v. shut in; restrict. The terrorists had *confined* their prisoner in a small room. However, they had not chained him to the wall or done anything else to *confine* his movements. *confinement*, N.

**confiscate** v. seize; commandeer. The army *confiscated* all available supplies of uranium.

**conflagration** N. great fire. In the *conflagration* that followed the 1906 earthquake, much of San Francisco was destroyed.

**confluence** N. flowing together; crowd. They built the city at the *confluence* of two rivers.

**conformity** N. harmony; agreement. In *conformity* with our rules and regulations, I am calling a meeting of our organization.

■ **confound** v. confuse; puzzle. No mystery could *confound* Sherlock Holmes for long.

**congeal** v. freeze; coagulate. His blood *congealed* in his veins as he saw the dread monster rush toward him.

**congenial** ADJ. pleasant; friendly. My father loved to go out for a meal with *congenial* companions.

**congenital** ADJ. existing at birth. Doctors are able to cure some *congenital* deformities such as cleft palates by performing operations on infants.

## Test

### Word List 10      Synonyms and Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

136. COLLATION (A) furor (B) emphasis (C) distillery (D) spree (E) lunch
137. COLLOQUIAL (A) burnt (B) polished (C) political (D) gifted (E) problematic
138. COLLOQUY (A) dialect (B) diversion (C) announcement (D) discussion (E) expansion

139. COMATOSE (A) cozy (B) restrained (C) alert (D) dumb (E) grim
140. COMBUSTIBLE (A) flammable (B) industrious (C) waterproof (D) specific (E) plastic
141. COMELY (A) yielding (B) unattractive (C) extremely sleepy (D) equal in extent (E) roving
142. COMMISERATE (A) communicate (B) expand (C) repay (D) diminish (E) sympathize
143. COMMODIOUS (A) numerous (B) yielding (C) leisurely (D) limited (E) expensive
144. COMPLIANT (A) numerous (B) veracious (C) soft (D) adamant (E) livid

145. CONCILIATE (A) defend (B) activate (C) integrate (D) quarrel (E) react
146. CONCOCT (A) thrive (B) wonder (C) intrude (D) drink (E) invent
147. CONDONE (A) build (B) evaluate (C) pierce (D) infuriate (E) overlook
148. CONFISCATE (A) discuss (B) discover (C) seize (D) exist (E) convey
149. CONFORMITY (A) agreement (B) ambition (C) confinement (D) pride (E) restraint
150. CONGENITAL (A) slight (B) obscure (C) thorough (D) existing at birth (E) classified

## Word List 11 · conglomeration-countermand

**conglomeration** *N.* mass of material sticking together. In such a *conglomeration* of miscellaneous statistics, it was impossible to find a single area of analysis.

**congruence** *N.* correspondence of parts; harmonious relationship. The student demonstrated the *congruence* of the two triangles by using the hypotenuse-leg theorem.

**congruent** *ADJ.* in agreement; corresponding. In formulating a hypothesis, we must keep it *congruent* with what we know of the real world; it cannot disagree with our experience.

**conifer** *N.* pine tree; cone-bearing tree. According to geologists, the *conifers* were the first plants to bear flowers.

**conjecture** *N.* surmise; guess. I will end all your *conjectures*; I admit I am guilty as charged. also *v.*

**conjugal** *ADJ.* pertaining to marriage. Their dreams of *conjugal* bliss were shattered as soon as their temperaments clashed.

**conjure** *V.* summon a devil; practice magic; imagine or invent. Sorcerers *conjure* devils to appear. Magicians *conjure* white rabbits out of hats. Political candidates *conjure* up images of reformed cities and a world at peace.

**connivance** *N.* pretense of ignorance of something wrong; assistance; permission to offend. With the *connivance* of his friends, he plotted to embarrass the teacher. *connive, v.*

■ **connoisseur** *N.* person competent to act as a judge of art, etc.; a lover of an art. She had developed into a *connoisseur* of fine china.

**connotation** *N.* suggested or implied meaning of an expression. Foreigners frequently are unaware of the *connotations* of the words they use.

**connubial** *ADJ.* pertaining to marriage or the matrimonial state. In his telegram, he wished the newlyweds a lifetime of *connubial* bliss.

**consanguinity** *N.* kinship. The lawsuit developed into a test of the *consanguinity* of the claimant to the estate.

**conscientious** *ADJ.* scrupulous; careful. A *conscientious* editor, she checked every definition for its accuracy.

**conscript** *N.* draftee; person forced into military service. Did Rembo volunteer to fight in Vietnam, or was he a *conscript*, drafted against his will? also *v.*

**consecrate** *V.* dedicate; sanctify. We shall *consecrate* our lives to this noble purpose.

**consensus** *N.* general agreement. The *consensus* indicates that we are opposed to entering into this pact.

**consequential** *ADJ.* pompous; self-important. Convinced of his own importance, the actor strutted about the dressing room with a *consequential* air.

**conservatory** *N.* school of the fine arts (especially music or drama). A gifted violinist, Marya was selected to study at the *conservatory*.

**consign** *V.* deliver officially; entrust; set apart. The court *consigned* the child to her paternal grandmother's care.

**consignment, N.**

**consistency** *N.* absence of contradictions; dependability; uniformity; degree of thickness. Holmes judged puddings and explanations on their *consistency*; he liked his puddings without lumps and his explanations without improbabilities.

**console** *V.* lessen sadness or disappointment; give comfort. When her father died, Marius did his best to *console* Cosette. *consolation, N.*

**consolidation** *N.* unification; process of becoming firmer or stronger. The recent *consolidation* of several small airlines into one major company has left observers of the industry wondering whether room still exists for the "little guy" in aviation. *consolidate, v.*

**consonance** *N.* harmony; agreement. Her agitation seemed out of *consonance* with her usual calm.

**consort** *V.* associate with. We frequently judge people by the company with whom they *consort*.

**consort** *N.* husband or wife. The search for a *consort* for the young Queen Victoria ended happily.

**conspiracy** *N.* treacherous plot. Brutus and Cassius joined in the *conspiracy* to kill Julius Caesar.

**constituent** *N.* supporter. The congressman received hundreds of letters from angry *constituents* after the Equal Rights Amendment failed to pass.

**constraint** *N.* compulsion; repression of feelings. There was a feeling of *constraint* in the room because no one dared to criticize the speaker. *constrain, v.*

**construe** v. explain; interpret. If I *construe* your remarks correctly, you disagree with the theory already advanced.

**consummate** ADJ. complete. I have never seen anyone who makes as many stupid errors as you do; you must be a *consummate* idiot. also v.

**contagion** n. infection. Fearing *contagion*, they took drastic steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

**contaminate** v. pollute. The sewage system of the city so *contaminated* the water that swimming was forbidden.

**contempt** n. scorn; disdain. The heavyweight boxer looked on ordinary people with *contempt*, scorning them as weaklings who couldn't hurt a fly. We thought it was *contemptible* of him to be *contemptuous* of people for being weak.

**contend** v. struggle; compete; assert earnestly. In *Revolt of the Black Athlete*, sociologist Harry Edwards *contends* that young black athletes have been exploited by some college recruiters. *contention*, n.

■ **contention** n. claim; thesis. It is our *contention* that, if you follow our tactics, you will boost your score on the GRE. *contend*, v.

■ **contentious** ADJ. quarrelsome. Disagreeing violently with the referees' ruling, the coach became so *contentious* that the referees threw him out of the game.

**contest** v. dispute. The defeated candidate attempted to *contest* the election results.

**context** n. writings preceding and following the passage quoted. Because these lines are taken out of *context*, they do not convey the message the author intended.

**contiguous** ADJ. adjacent to; touching upon. The two countries are *contiguous* for a few miles; then they are separated by the gulf.

**continence** n. self-restraint; sexual chastity. At the convent, Connie vowed to lead a life of *continence*. The question was, could Connie be content with always being *continent*?

**contingent** ADJ. dependent on; conditional. Cher's father informed her that any increase in her allowance was *contingent* on the quality of her final grades. *contingency*, n.

**contingent** n. group that makes up part of a gathering. The New York *contingent* of delegates at the Democratic National Convention was a boisterous, sometimes rowdy lot.

**contortions** n. twistings; distortions. As the effects of the opiate wore away, the *contortions* of the patient became more violent and demonstrated how much pain she was enduring.

**contraband** n. illegal trade; smuggling; smuggled goods. The Coast Guard tries to prevent *contraband* in U.S. waters. also ADJ.

**contravene** v. contradict; oppose; infringe on or transgress. Mr. Barrett did not expect his frail daughter Elizabeth to *contravene* his will by eloping with Robert Browning.

■ **contrite** ADJ. penitent. Her *contrite* tears did not influence the judge when he imposed sentence. *contrition*, n.

**contrived** ADJ. forced; artificial; not spontaneous. Feeling ill at ease with his new in-laws, James made a few *contrived* attempts at conversation and then retreated into silence.

**controvert** v. oppose with arguments; attempt to refute; contradict. The witness's testimony was so clear and her reputation for honesty so well established that the defense attorney decided it was wiser to make no attempt to *controvert* what she said.

**contumacious** ADJ. disobedient; resisting authority. The *contumacious* mob shouted defiantly at the police. *contumacy*, n.

**confusion** n. bruise. Black and blue after her fall, Sue was treated for *confusions* and abrasions.

■ **conundrum** n. riddle; difficult problem. During the long car ride, she invented *conundrums* to entertain the children.

**convene** v. assemble. Because much needed legislation had to be enacted, the governor ordered the legislature to *convene* in special session by January 15.

**convention** n. social or moral custom; established practice. Flying in the face of *convention*, George Sand (Amandine Dudevant) shocked her contemporaries by taking lovers and wearing men's clothes.

**conventional** ADJ. ordinary; typical. His *conventional* upbringing left him wholly unprepared for his wife's eccentric family.

■ **converge** v. approach; tend to meet; come together. African-American men from all over the United States converged on Washington to take part in the historic Million Man March. *convergence*, n.

**conversant** ADJ. familiar with. The lawyer is *conversant* with all the evidence.

**converse** n. opposite. The inevitable *converse* of peace is not war but annihilation.

**convert** n. one who has adopted a different religion or opinion. On his trip to Japan, though the president spoke at length about the merits of American automobiles, he made few *converts* to his beliefs. also v.

**convex** ADJ. curving outward. She polished the *convex* lens of her telescope.

**conveyance** n. vehicle; transfer. During the transit strike, commuters used various kinds of *conveyances*.

**conviction** n. judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief. Even her *conviction* for murder did not shake Lord Peter's *conviction* that Harriet was innocent of the crime.

**convivial** ADJ. festive; gay; characterized by joviality. The *convivial* celebrators of the victory sang their college songs.

**convoke** v. call together. Congress was *convoked* at the outbreak of the emergency. *convocation*, n.

■ **convoluted** ADJ. coiled around; involved; intricate. His argument was so *convoluted* that few of us could follow it intelligently.

**copious** ADJ. plentiful. She had *copious* reasons for rejecting the proposal.

**coquette** *n.* flirt. Because she refused to give him an answer to his proposal of marriage, he called her a *coquette*. also *v.*

**cordial** *ADJ.* gracious; heartfelt. Our hosts greeted us at the airport with a *cordial* welcome and a hearty hug.

**cordon** *n.* extended line of men or fortifications to prevent access or egress. The police *cordon* was so tight that the criminals could not leave the area. also *v.*

**cornice** *n.* projecting molding on building (usually above columns). Because the stones forming the *cornice* had been loosened by the storms, the police closed the building until repairs could be made.

**cornucopia** *n.* horn overflowing with fruit and grain; symbol of abundance. The encyclopedia salesman claimed the new edition was a veritable *cornucopia* of information, an inexhaustible source of knowledge for the entire family.

**corollary** *n.* consequence; accompaniment. Brotherly love is a complex emotion, with sibling rivalry its natural *corollary*.

**corporeal** *ADJ.* bodily; material. The doctor had no patience with spiritual matters: his job was to attend to his patients' *corporeal* problems, not to minister to their souls.

**corpulent** *ADJ.* very fat. The *corpulent* man resolved to reduce corpulence. *n.*

**correlation** *n.* mutual relationship. He sought to determine the *correlation* that existed between ability in algebra and ability to interpret reading exercises. *correlate*, *v.*, *n.*

**corroborate** *v.* confirm; support. Though Huck was quite willing to *corroborate* Tom's story, Aunt Polly knew better than to believe either of them.

**corrode** *v.* destroy by chemical action. The girders supporting the bridge *corroded* so gradually that no one suspected any danger until the bridge suddenly collapsed. *corrosion*, *n.*

**corrosive** *ADJ.* eating away by chemicals or disease. Stainless steel is able to withstand the effects of *corrosive* chemicals.

**corrugated** *ADJ.* wrinkled; ridged. She wished she could smooth away the wrinkles from his *corrugated* brow.

**cosmic** *ADJ.* pertaining to the universe; vast. Cosmic rays derive their name from the fact that they bombard the earth's atmosphere from outer space. *cosmos*, *n.*

**coterie** *n.* group that meets socially; select circle. After his book had been published, he was invited to join the literary *coterie* that lunched daily at the hotel.

**countenance** *v.* approve; tolerate. Miss Manners refused to *countenance* such rude behavior on their part.

**countenance** *n.* face. When José saw his newborn daughter, a proud smile spread across his *countenance*.

**countermand** *v.* cancel; revoke. The general *countermanded* the orders issued in his absence.

## Test

### Word List 11 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

151. CONJECTURE (A) magic (B) guess (C) position (D) form (E) place
152. CONNOISSEUR (A) gourmand (B) lover of art (C) humidor (D) delinquent (E) interpreter
153. CONSANGUINITY (A) kinship (B) friendship (C) bloodletting (D) relief (E) understanding
154. CONSENSUS (A) general agreement (B) project (C) insignificance (D) sheaf (E) crevice
155. CONSTRUE (A) explain (B) promote (C) reserve (D) erect (E) block
156. CONTAMINATE (A) arrest (B) prepare (C) pollute (D) beam (E) inform
157. CONTENTIOUS (A) squealing (B) surprising (C) quarrelsome (D) smug (E) creative
158. CONTINENCE (A) humanity (B) research (C) embryology (D) bodies of land (E) self-restraint
159. CONTRABAND (A) purpose (B) rogue (C) rascality (D) difficulty (E) smuggling
160. CONTRITE (A) smart (B) penitent (C) restful (D) recognized (E) perspiring
161. CONTROVERT (A) turn over (B) contradict (C) mind (D) explain (E) swing
162. CONVENE (A) propose (B) restore (C) question (D) gather (E) motivate
163. CONVERSANT (A) ignorant (B) speaking (C) incorporated (D) familiar (E) pedantic
164. COPIOUS (A) plentiful (B) cheating (C) dishonorable (D) adventurous (E) inspired
165. CORPULENT (A) regenerate (B) obese (C) different (D) hungry (E) bloody

## Word List 12 counterpart-decelerate

**counterpart** *N.* a thing that completes another; things very much alike. Night and day are *counterparts*.

**coup** *N.* highly successful action or sudden attack. As the news of his *coup* spread throughout Wall Street, his fellow brokers dropped by to congratulate him.

**couple** *V.* join; unite. The Flying Karamazovs *couple* expert juggling and amateur joking in their nightclub act.

**courier** *N.* messenger. The publisher sent a special *courier* to pick up the manuscript.

**covenant** *N.* agreement. We must comply with the terms of the *covenant*.

**covert** *ADJ.* secret; hidden; implied. Investigations of the Central Intelligence Agency and other secret service networks reveal that such *covert* operations can get out of control.

**covetous** *ADJ.* avaricious; eagerly desirous of. The child was *covetous* by nature and wanted to take the toys belonging to his classmates. *covet*, *V.*

**cower** *V.* terrorize; intimidate. The little boy was so *cowed* by the hulking bully that he gave up his lunch money without a word of protest.

**cower** *V.* shrink quivering, as from fear. The frightened child *cowered* in the corner of the room.

**coy** *ADJ.* shy; modest; coquettish. Reluctant to commit herself too early in the game, Kay was *coy* in her answers to Ken's offer.

**cozen** *V.* cheat; hoodwink; swindle. He was the kind of individual who would *cozen* his friends in a cheap card game but remain eminently ethical in all his business dealings.

**crabbed** *ADJ.* sour; peevish. The children avoided the *crabbed* old man because he scolded them when they made noise.

**crass** *ADJ.* very unrefined; grossly insensible. The film critic deplored the *crass* commercialism of movie-makers who abandon artistic standards in order to make a quick buck.

**craven** *ADJ.* cowardly. Lillian's *craven* refusal to join the protest was criticized by her comrades, who had expected her to be brave enough to stand up for her beliefs.

**credence** *N.* belief. Do not place any *credence* in his promises.

**credo** *N.* creed. I believe we may best describe her *credo* by saying that it approximates the Golden Rule.

**credulity** *N.* belief on slight evidence; gullibility; naiveté. Con artists take advantage of the *credulity* of inexperienced investors to swindle them out of their savings. *credulous*, *ADJ.*

**creed** *N.* system of religious or ethical belief. Any loyal American's *creed* must emphasize love of democracy.

**crescendo** *N.* increase in the volume or intensity, as in a musical passage; climax. The overture suddenly changed from a quiet pastoral theme to a *crescendo* featuring blaring trumpets and clashing cymbals.

**crestfallen** *ADJ.* dejected; dispirited. We were surprised at his reaction to the failure of his project; instead of being *crestfallen*, he was busily engaged in planning new activities.

**crevice** *N.* crack; fissure. The mountain climbers found footholds in the tiny *crevices* in the mountainside.

**cringe** *V.* shrink back, as if in fear. The dog *cringed*, expecting a blow.

**criteria** *N. PL.* standards used in judging. What *criteria* did you use when you selected this essay as the prize winner? *criterion*, *SING.*

**crone** *N.* hag. The toothless *crone* frightened us when she smiled.

**crotchety** *ADJ.* eccentric; whimsical. Although he was reputed to be a *crotchety* old gentleman, I found his ideas substantially sound and sensible.

**crux** *N.* essential or main point. This is the *crux* of the entire problem: everything centers on its being resolved. *crucial*, *ADJ.*

**crypt** *N.* secret recess or vault usually used for burial. Until recently only bodies of rulers and leading statesmen were interred in this *crypt*.

**cryptic** *ADJ.* mysterious; hidden; secret. Thoroughly baffled by Holmes's *cryptic* remarks, Watson wondered whether Holmes was intentionally concealing his thoughts about the crime.

**cubicle** *N.* small chamber used for sleeping. After her many hours of intensive study in the library, she retired to her *cubicle*.

**cuisine** *N.* style of cooking. French *cuisine* is noted for its use of sauces and wines.

**culinary** *ADJ.* relating to cooking. Many chefs attribute their *culinary* success to the wise use of spices.

**cull** *V.* pick out; reject. Every month the farmer *culls* the nonlaying hens from his flock and sells them to the local butcher. also *N.*

**culmination** *N.* attainment of highest point. His inauguration as President of the United States marked the *culmination* of his political career.

**culpable** *ADJ.* deserving blame. Corrupt politicians who condone the activities of the gamblers are equally *culpable*.

**culvert** *N.* artificial channel for water. If we build a *culvert* under the road at this point, we will reduce the possibility of the road's being flooded during the rainy season.

**cumbersome** *ADJ.* heavy; hard to manage. She was burdened with *cumbersome* parcels.

**cumulative** *ADJ.* growing by addition. Vocabulary-building is a *cumulative* process: as you go through your flash cards, you will add new words to your vocabulary, one by one.

**cupidity** *N.* greed. The defeated people could not satisfy the *cupidity* of the conquerors, who demanded excessive tribute.



curator *N.* superintendent; manager. The members of the board of trustees of the museum expected the new curator to plan events and exhibits that would make the museum more popular.

curmudgeon *N.* churlish, miserly individual. Although many regarded him as a *curmudgeon*, a few of us were aware of the many kindnesses and acts of charity that he secretly performed.

cursive *ADJ.* flowing, running. In normal writing we run our letters together in *cursive* form; in printing, we separate the letters.

cursory *ADJ.* casual; hastily done. Because a  *cursory* examination of the ruins indicates the possibility of arson, we believe the insurance agency should undertake a more extensive investigation of the fire's cause.

curtail *V.* shorten; reduce. When Elton asked Cher for a date, she said she was really sorry she couldn't go out with him, but her dad had ordered her to *curtail* her social life.

cynical *ADJ.* skeptical or distrustful of human motives. *Cynical* from birth, Sidney was suspicious whenever anyone gave him a gift "with no strings attached." *cynic*, *N.* cynicism, *N.*

cynosure *N.* object of general attention. As soon as the movie star entered the room, she became the *cynosure* of all eyes.

dabble *V.* work at in a nonserious fashion; splash around. The amateur painter *dabbled* at art, but seldom produced a finished piece. The children *dabbled* their hands in the bird bath, splashing one another gleefully.

dais *N.* raised platform for guests of honor. When she approached the *dais*, she was greeted by cheers from the people who had come to honor her.

dally *V.* trifle with; procrastinate. Leertes told Ophelia that Hamlet would only *dally* with her affections.

dank *ADJ.* damp. The walls of the dungeon were *dank* and slimy.

dapper *ADJ.* neat and trim. In *The Odd Couple*, Tony Randall played Felix Unger, an excessively *dapper* soul who could not stand to have a hair out of place.

dappled *ADJ.* spotted. The sunlight filtering through the screens created a *dappled* effect on the wall.

daub *V.* smear (as with paint). From the way he *daubed* his paint on the canvas, I could tell he knew nothing of oils. also *N.*

daunt *V.* intimidate; frighten. "Boast all you like of your prowess. Mere words cannot *daunt* me," the hero answered the villain.

dauntless *ADJ.* bold. Despite the dangerous nature of the undertaking, the *dauntless* soldier volunteered for the assignment.

dawdle *V.* loiter; waste time. We have to meet a deadline. Don't *dawdle*; just get down to work.

deadlock *N.* standstill; stalemate. Because negotiations had reached a *deadlock*, some of the delegates had begun to mutter about breaking off the talks. also *V.*

deadpan *ADJ.* wooden; impassive. We wanted to see how long he could maintain his *deadpan* expression.

dearth *N.* scarcity. The *dearth* of skilled labor compelled the employers to open trade schools.

debacle *N.* sudden downfall; complete disaster. In the *Airplane* movies, every flight turns into a *debacle*, with passengers and crew members collapsing, engines falling apart, and carry-on baggage popping out of the overhead bins.

debase *V.* reduce the quality or value; lower in esteem; degrade. In *The King and I*, Anna refuses to kneel down and prostrate herself before the king; she feels that to do so would *debase* her position, and she will not submit to such *debasement*.

debauch *V.* corrupt; seduce from virtue. Did Socrates' teachings lead the young men of Athens to be virtuous citizens, or did they *debauch* the young men, causing them to question the customs of their fathers? Clearly, Socrates' philosophical talks were nothing like the wild *debauchery* of the toga parties in *Animal House*.

debilitate *V.* weaken; enfeeble. Michael's severe bout of the flu *debilitated* him so much that he was too tired to go to work for a week.

debonair *ADJ.* friendly; aiming to please. The *debonair* youth was liked by all who met him, because of his cheerful and obliging manner.

debris *N.* rubble. A full year after the earthquake in Mexico City, workers were still carting away the *debris*.

debunk *V.* expose as false, exaggerated, worthless, etc.; ridicule. Pointing out that he consistently had voted against strengthening antipollution legislation, reporters *debunked* the candidate's claim that he was a fervent environmentalist.

debutante *N.* young woman making formal entrance into society. As a *debutante*, she was often mentioned in the society columns of the newspapers.

decadence *N.* decay. The moral *decadence* of the people was reflected in the lewd literature of the period.

decant *V.* pour off gently. Be sure to *decant* this wine before serving it.

decapitate *V.* behead. They did not hang Lady Jane Grey; they *decapitated* her. "Off with her head!" cried the Duchess, eager to *decapitate* poor Alice.

decelerate *V.* slow down. Seeing the emergency blinkers in the road ahead, he *decelerated* quickly.



## Test

Word List 12      *Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

166. COY (A) weak (B) airy (C) brazen (D) old (E) tiresome  
 167. COZEN (A) amuse (B) treat honestly (C) prate (D) shackle (E) vilify  
 168. CRAVEN (A) desirous (B) direct (C) bold (D) civilized (E) controlled  
 169. CRUX (A) affliction (B) spark (C) events (D) trivial point (E) belief  
 170. CRYPTIC (A) tomblike (B) futile (C) famous (D) candid (E) indifferent  
 171. CUPIDITY (A) anxiety (B) tragedy (C) generosity (D) entertainment (E) love  
 172. CURTAIL (A) mutter (B) lengthen (C) express (D) burden (E) shore up  
 173. CYNICAL (A) trusting (B) effortless (C) conclusive (D) gellant (E) vertical  
 174. DANK (A) dry (B) guiltless (C) warm (D) babbling (E) reserved  
 175. DAPPER (A) unintelligent (B) untidy (C) uncertain (D) ungrateful (E) unhealthy  
 176. DAUNTLESS (A) stolid (B) cowardly (C) irrelevant (D) peculiar (E) particular  
 177. DEARTH (A) life (B) abundance (C) brightness (D) terror (E) width  
 178. DEBACLE (A) progress (B) refusal (C) masque (D) cowardice (E) traffic  
 179. DEBILITATE (A) bedevil (B) repress (C) strengthen (D) animate (E) deaden  
 180. DEBONAIR (A) awkward (B) windy (C) balmy (D) strong (E) stormy

Word List 13      *deciduous-dermatologist*

**deciduous** ADJ. falling off, as of leaves. The oak is a *deciduous* tree.

**decimate** V. kill, usually one out of ten. We do more to *decimate* our population in automobile accidents than we do in war.

**decipher** V. decode. I could not *decipher* the doctor's handwriting.

**declivity** N. downward slope. The children loved to ski down the *declivity*.

**décolleté** ADJ. having a low-cut neckline. Fashion decrees that evening gowns be *décolleté* this season; bare shoulders are again the vogue.

**decomposition** N. decay. Despite the body's advanced state of *decomposition*, the police were able to identify the murdered man.

■ **decorum** N. propriety; orderliness and good taste in manners. Even the best-mannered students have trouble behaving with *decorum* on the last day of school. **decorous**, ADJ.

**decoy** N. lure or bait. The wild ducks were not fooled by the *decoy*. Also V.

**decrepitude** N. state of collapse caused by illness or old age. I was unprepared for the state of *decrepitude* in which I had found my old friend; he seemed to have aged twenty years in six months.

**decry** V. express strong disapproval of; disparage. The founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman, strongly *decry*s the lack of financial and moral support for children in America today.

**deducible** ADJ. derived by reasoning. If we accept your premise, your conclusions are easily *deducible*.

**deface** V. mar; disfigure. If you *deface* a library book you will have to pay a hefty fine.

**defame** V. harm someone's reputation; malign; slander. If you try to *defame* my good name, my lawyers will see you in court. If rival candidates persist in *defaming* one another, the voters may conclude that all politicians are crooks. **defamation**, N.

■ **default** N. failure to act. When the visiting team failed to show up for the big game, they lost the game by *default*. When Jack failed to make the payments on his Jaguar, the dealership took back the car because he had *defaulted* on his debt.

**defeatist** ADJ. resigned to defeat; accepting defeat as a natural outcome. If you maintain your *defeatist* attitude, you will never succeed. Also N.

**defection** N. desertion. The children, who had made him an idol, were hurt most by his *defection* from our cause.

**defer** V. delay till later; exempt temporarily. In wartime, some young men immediately volunteer to serve; others *defer* making plans until they hear from their draft boards. During the Vietnam War, many young men, hoping to be *deferred*, requested student *deferments*.

**defer** V. give in respectfully; submit. When it comes to making decisions about purchasing software, we must *defer* to Michael, our computer guru; he has the final word. Michael, however, can *defer* these questions to no one; only he can decide.

■ **deference** N. courteous regard for another's wish. In *deference* to the minister's request, please do not take photographs during the wedding service.

**defiance** N. refusal to yield; resistance. When John reached the "terrible two's," he responded to every parental request with howls of *defiance*. **defy**, V. **defiant**, ADJ.

**defile** V. pollute; profane. The hoodlums *defiled* the church with their scurrilous writing.

**definitive** ADJ. most reliable or complete. Carl Sandburg's *Abraham Lincoln* may be regarded as the *definitive* work on the life of the Great Emancipator.

**deflect** V. turn aside. His life was saved when his cigarette case *deflected* the bullet.

**defoliate** V. destroy leaves. In Vietnam the army made extensive use of chemical agents to *defoliate* the woodlands.

**defray** V. provide for the payment of. Her employer offered to *defray* the costs of her postgraduate education.

**defrock** V. to strip a priest or minister of church authority. We knew the minister had violated church regulations, but we had not realized his offense was serious enough to cause him to be *defrocked*.

**deft** ADJ. neat; skillful. The *deft* waiter uncorked the champagne without spilling a drop.

**defunct** ADJ. dead; no longer in use or existence. The lawyers sought to examine the books of the *defunct* corporation.

**degenerate** V. become worse; deteriorate. As the fight dragged on, the champion's style *degenerated* until he could barely keep on his feet.

**degradation** N. humiliation; debasement; degeneration. Some secretaries object to fetching the boss a cup of coffee because they resent the *degradation* of being made to perform such lowly tasks. *degrade*, V.

**dehydrate** V. remove water from; dry out. Running under a hot sun quickly *dehydrates* the body; joggers avoid *dehydration* by carrying water bottles and drinking from them frequently.

**deify** V. turn into a god; idolize. Admire the rock star all you want; just don't *deify* him.

**deign** V. condescend; stoop. The celebrated fashion designer would not *deign* to speak to a mere seamstress; his overburdened assistant had to convey the master's wishes to the lowly workers assembling his great designs.

**delete** V. erase; strike out. If you *delete* this paragraph, the composition will have more appeal.

**deleterious** ADJ. harmful. If you believe that smoking is *deleterious* to your health (and the Surgeon General surely does), then quit!

**deliberate** V. consider; ponder. Offered the new job, she asked for time to *deliberate* before she made her decision.

■ **delineate** V. portray; depict; sketch. Using only a few descriptive phrases, Austen *delineates* the character of Mr. Collins so well that we can predict his every move. *delineation*, N.

**delirium** N. mental disorder marked by confusion. In his *delirium*, the drunkard saw pink panthers and talking pigs. Perhaps he wasn't *delirious*; he might just have wandered into a movie house.

**delta** N. flat plain of mud or sand between branches of a river. His dissertation discussed the effect of intermittent flooding on the fertility of the Nile *delta*.

**delude** V. deceive. The mistress *deludes* herself into believing that her lover will leave his wife and marry her.

**deluge** N. flood; rush. When we advertised the position we received a *deluge* of applications. also V.

**delusion** N. false belief; hallucination. Don suffers from *delusions* of grandeur; he thinks he's a world-famous author when he's published just one paperback book.

**delusive** ADJ. deceptive; raising vain hopes. Do not raise your hopes on the basis of his *delusive* promises.

**delve** V. dig; investigate. *Delving* into old books and manuscripts is part of a researcher's job.

**demagogue** N. person who appeals to people's prejudice; false leader. He was accused of being a *demagogue* because he made promises that aroused futile hopes in his listeners.

**demean** V. degrade; humiliate. Standing on his dignity, he refused to *demean* himself by replying to the offensive letter. If you truly believed in the dignity of labor, you would not think it would *demean* you to work as a janitor.

**demeanor** N. behavior; bearing. His sober *demeanor* quieted the noisy revelers.

**demented** ADJ. insane. Doctor Demento was a radio personality who liked to act as if he were truly *demented*. If you're *demented*, your mental state is out of whack; in other words, you're wacky.

**demise** N. death. Upon the *demise* of the dictator, a bitter dispute about succession to power developed.

**demographic** ADJ. related to population balance. In conducting a survey, one should take into account *demographic* trends in the region. *demography*, N.

**demolition** N. destruction. One of the major aims of the air force was the complete *demolition* of all means of transportation by the bombing of rail lines and terminals.

*demolish*, V.

**demoniac** ADJ. fiendish. The Spanish Inquisition devised many *demoniac* means of torture. *demon*, N.

**demotic** ADJ. pertaining to the people. He lamented the passing of aristocratic society and maintained that a *demotic* society would lower the nation's standards.

**demur** V. object (because of doubts, scruples); hesitate. When offered a post on the board of directors, David *demurred*; he had scruples about taking on the job because he was unsure he could handle it in addition to his other responsibilities.

**demure** ADJ. grave; serious; coy. She was *demure* and reserved, a nice modest girl whom any young man would be proud to take home to his mother.

■ **denigrate** V. blacken. All attempts to *denigrate* the character of our late president have failed; the people still love him and cherish his memory.

**denizen** N. inhabitant or resident; regular visitor. In *The Untouchables*, Eliot Ness fights Al Capone and the other *denizens* of Chicago's underworld. Ness's fight against corruption was the talk of all the *denizens* of the local bars.

**denotation** N. meaning; distinguishing by name. A dictionary will always give us the *denotation* of a word; frequently, it will also give us its connotation.

**denouement** N. outcome; final development of the plot of a play or other literary work. The play was childishly written; the *denouement* was obvious to sophisticated theatergoers as early as the middle of the first act.

**denounce** v. condemn; criticize. The reform candidate *denounced* the corrupt city officers for having betrayed the public's trust. *denunciation*, n.

**depict** v. portray. In this sensational exposé, the author *depicts* Beate John Lennon as a drug-crazed neurotic. Do you question the accuracy of this *depiction* of Lennon?

**deplete** v. reduce; exhaust. We must wait until we *deplete* our present inventory before we order replacements.

**deplore** v. regret. Although I *deplore* the vulgarity of your language, I defend your right to express yourself freely.

**deploy** v. spread out [troops] in an extended though shallow battle line. The general ordered the battalion to *deploy* in order to meet the enemy offensive.

**depose** v. dethrone; remove from office. The army attempted to *depose* the king and set up a military government.

**deposition** n. testimony under oath. She made her *deposition* in the judge's chamber.

**depravity** n. extreme corruption; wickedness. The *depravity* of Caligula's behavior eventually sickened even those who had willingly participated in his earlier, comparatively innocent orgies. *deprave*, v.

**deprecate** v. express disapproval of; protest against; belittle. A firm believer in old-fashioned courtesy, Miss

Post *deprecated* the modern tendency to address new acquaintances by their first names. *deprecatory*, adj.

**depreciate** v. lessen in value. If you neglect this property, it will *depreciate*.

**depredation** n. plundering. After the *depredations* of the invaders, the people were penniless.

**deranged** adj. insane. He had to be institutionalized because he was *deranged*.

**derelict** adj. abandoned; negligent. The *derelict* craft was a menace to navigation. Whoever abandoned it in the middle of the harbor was *derelict* in living up to his responsibilities as a boat owner. also n.

■ **deride** v. ridicule; make fun of. The critics *derided* his pretentious dialogue and refused to consider his play seriously. Despite the critics' *derision*, however, audiences were moved by the play, cheering its unembarrassed sentimental conclusion. *derisive*, adj.

■ **derivative** adj. unoriginal; obtained from another source. Although her early poetry was clearly *derivative* in nature, the critics thought she had promise and eventually would find her own voice.

**dermatologist** n. one who studies the skin and its diseases. I advise you to consult a *dermatologist* about your acne.

## Test

### Word List 13 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

181. DECIMATE (A) kill (B) disgrace (C) search (D) collide (E) deride

182. DECLIVITY (A) trap (B) quadrangle (C) quarter (D) activity (E) downward slope

183. DÉCOLLETÉ (A) flavored (B) demure (C) flowery (D) low-necked (E) sweet

184. DECOROUS (A) momentary (B) emotional (C) suppressed (D) proper (E) unexpected

185. DECREPITUDE (A) feebleness (B) disease (C) coolness (D) melee (E) crowd

186. DEFAULT (A) failure to act (B) tendency to err (C) desire to remedy (D) debt (E) misunderstanding

187. DEFECTION (A) determination (B) desertion (C) invitation (D) affection (E) reservation

188. DEFILE (A) manicure (B) ride (C) pollute (D) assemble (E) order

189. DEGRADED (A) surprised (B) lowered (C) ascended (D) learned (E) prejudged

190. DELETERIOUS (A) delaying (B) experimental (C) harmful (D) graduating (E) glorious

191. DELUGE (A) confusion (B) deception (C) flood (D) mountain (E) weapon

192. DENIGRATE (A) refuse (B) blacken (C) terrify (D) admit (E) review

193. DÉNOUEMENT (A) action (B) scenery (C) resort (D) character (E) solution

194. DEPRAVITY (A) wickedness (B) sadness (C) heaviness (D) tidiness (E) seriousness

195. DERANGED (A) insane (B) systematic (C) neighborly (D) alphabetical (E) surrounded

### Word List 14 derogatory-disgruntle

**derogatory** adj. expressing a low opinion. I resent your *derogatory* remarks.

**descry** v. catch sight of. In the distance, we could barely *descry* the enemy vessels.

**desecrate** v. profane; violate the sanctity of. Shattering the altar and trampling the holy objects underfoot, the invaders *desecrated* the sanctuary.

■ **desiccate** v. dry up. A tour of this smokehouse will give you an idea of how the pioneers used to *desiccate* food in order to preserve it.

**desolate** adj. unpopulated; joyless. After six months in the crowded, bustling metropolis, David was so sick of people that he was ready to head for the most *desolate* patch of wilderness he could find.

**desolate** v. rob of joy; lay waste to; forsake. The bandits *desolated* the countryside, burning farms and carrying off the harvest.

**desperado** n. reckless outlaw. Butch Cassidy was a bold *desperado* with a price on his head.

**despise** v. look on with scorn; regard as worthless or distasteful. Mr. Bond, I *despise* spies; I look down on them as mean, *despicable*, honorless men, whom I would wipe from the face of the earth with as little concern as I would scrape dog droppings from the bottom of my shoe.

**despoil** v. plunder. If you do not yield, I am afraid the enemy will *despoil* the countryside.

**despondent** ADJ. depressed; gloomy. To the distress of his parents, William became seriously *despondent* after he broke up with Jan. *despondency*, n.

**despot** n. tyrant; harsh, authoritarian ruler. How could a benevolent king turn overnight into a *despot*? *despotism*, n.

**destitute** ADJ. extremely poor. Because they had no health insurance, the father's costly illness left the family *destitute*. *destitution*, n.

■ **desultory** ADJ. aimless; haphazard; digressing at random. In prison Malcolm X set himself the task of reading straight through the dictionary; to him, reading was purposeful, not *desultory*.

**detached** ADJ. emotionally removed; calm and objective; physically separate. A psychoanalyst must maintain a *detached* point of view and stay uninvolved with her patients' personal lives. To a child growing up in an apartment or a row house, to live in a *detached* house was an unattainable dream. (secondary meaning) *detachment*, n.

**determinate** ADJ. having a fixed order of procedure; invariable. At the royal wedding, the procession of the nobles followed a *determinate* order of precedence.

**determination** n. resolve; measurement or calculation; decision. Nothing could shake his *determination* that his children would get the best education that money could buy. Thanks to my pocket calculator, my *determination* of the answer to the problem took only seconds of my time.

■ **deterrent** n. something that discourages; hindrance. Does the threat of capital punishment serve as a *deterrent* to potential killers? also ADJ.

**detonation** n. explosion. The *detonation* of the bomb could be heard miles away.

**detract** v. slander; aspersion. He is offended by your frequent *detractions* of his ability as a leader.

**detrimental** ADJ. harmful; damaging. The candidate's acceptance of major financial contributions from a well-known racist ultimately proved *detrimental* to his campaign, for he lost the backing of many of his early grassroots supporters. *detriment*, n.

**deviate** v. turn away from (a principle, norm); depart; diverge. Richard never *deviated* from his daily routine: every day he set off for work at eight o'clock, had his sack lunch at noon, and headed home at the stroke of five.

**devious** ADJ. roundabout; erratic; not straightforward. The Joker's plan was so *devious* that it was only with great difficulty we could follow its shifts and dodges.

**devise** v. think up; invent; plan. How clever he must be to have *devised* such a devious plan! What ingenious inventions might he have *devised* if he had turned his mind to science rather than crime.

**devoid** ADJ. lacking. You may think Cher's mind is a total void, but she's actually not *devoid* of intelligence. She just sounds like an airhead.

**devolve** v. deputize; pass to others. It *devolved* upon us, the survivors, to arrange peace terms with the enemy.

**devotee** n. enthusiastic follower. A *devotee* of the opera, she bought season tickets every year.

**devout** ADJ. pious. The *devout* man prayed daily.

**dexterous** ADJ. skillful. The magician was so *dexterous* that we could not follow his movements as he performed his tricks.

**diabolical** ADJ. devilish. "What a fiend I am, to devise such a *diabolical* scheme to destroy Gotham City," chortled the Joker.

**diadem** n. crown. The king's *diadem* was on display at the museum.

**dialectical** ADJ. relating to the art of debate; mutual or reciprocal. The debate coach's students grew to develop great forensic and *dialectical* skill. Teaching, however, is inherently a *dialectical* situation: the coach learned at least as much from her students as they learned from her. *dialectics*, n.

**diaphanous** ADJ. sheer; transparent. They saw the burglar clearly through the *diaphanous* curtain.

■ **diatribe** n. bitter scolding; invective. During the lengthy *diatribe* delivered by his opponent he remained calm and self-controlled.

■ **dichotomy** n. split; branching into two parts (especially contradictory ones). Willie didn't know how to resolve the *dichotomy* between his ambition to go to college and his childhood longing to run away and join the circus. Then he heard about Ringling Brothers Circus College, and he knew he'd found his school.

**dictum** n. authoritative and weighty statement; saying; maxim. University administrations still follow the old *dictum* "Publish or perish." They don't care how good a teacher you are; if you don't publish enough papers, you're out of a job.

**didactic** ADJ. teaching; instructional. Pope's lengthy poem *An Essay on Man* is too *didactic* for my taste; I dislike it when poets turn preachy and moralize. *didacticism*, n.

**die** n. device for stamping or impressing; mold. In coining pennies, workers at the old mint squeezed sheets of softened copper between two *dies*.

■ **diffidence** n. shyness. You must overcome your *diffidence* if you intend to become a salesperson.

■ **diffuse** ADJ. wordy; rambling; spread out (like a gas). If you pay authors by the word, you tempt them to produce *diffuse* manuscripts rather than brief ones. also v. *diffusion*, n.

■ **digression** *N.* wandering away from the subject. Nobody minded when Professor Renoir's lectures wandered away from their official theme; his *digressions* were always more fascinating than the topic of the day. *digress*, *v.*

**dilapidated** *ADJ.* ruined because of neglect. The *dilapidated* old building needed far more work than just a new coat of paint. *dilapidation*, *N.*

**dilate** *v.* expand. In the dark, the pupils of your eyes *dilate*.

**dilatory** *ADJ.* delaying. Your *dilatory* tactics may compel me to cancel the contract.

**dilemma** *N.* problem; choice of two unsatisfactory alternatives. In this *dilemma*, he knew no one to whom he could turn for advice.

**dilettante** *N.* aimless follower of the arts; amateur; dabbler. He was not serious in his painting; he was rather a *dilettante*.

**diligence** *N.* steadiness of effort; persistent hard work. Her employers were greatly impressed by her *diligence* and offered her a partnership in the firm.

**dilute** *v.* make less concentrated; reduce in strength. She preferred her coffee *diluted* with milk.

**diminution** *N.* lessening; reduction in size. Old Jack was as sharp at eighty as he had been at fifty; increasing age led to no *diminution* of his mental acuity.

**din** *N.* continued loud noise. The *din* of the jackhammers outside the classroom window drowned out the lecturer's voice. also *v.*

**dinghy** *N.* small boat (often ship's boat). In the film *Lifeboat*, an ill-assorted group of passengers from a sunken ocean liner are marooned at sea in a *dinghy*.

**dingy** *ADJ.* dull; not fresh; cheerless. Refusing to be depressed by her *dingy* studio apartment, Bea spent the weekend polishing the floors and windows and hanging bright posters on the walls.

**dint** *N.* means; effort. By *dint* of much hard work, the volunteers were able to control the raging forest fire.

**diorama** *N.* life-size, three-dimensional scene from nature or history. Because they dramatically pose actual stuffed animals against realistic painted landscapes, the *dioramas* at the Museum of Natural History particularly impress high school biology students.

**dire** *ADJ.* disastrous. People ignored her *dire* predictions of an approaching depression.

■ **dirge** *N.* lament with music. The funeral *dirge* stirred us to tears.

■ **disabuse** *v.* correct a false impression; undeceive. I will attempt to *disabuse* you of your impression of my client's guilt; I know he is innocent.

**disaffected** *ADJ.* disloyal. Once the most loyal of Bradley's supporters, Senator Moynihan found himself becoming increasingly *disaffected*.

**disapprobation** *N.* disapproval; condemnation. The conservative father viewed his daughter's radical boyfriend with *disapprobation*.

**disarray** *N.* a disorderly or untidy state. After the New Year's party, the once orderly house was in total *disarray*.

**disavowal** *N.* denial; disclaiming. His *disavowal* of his part in the conspiracy was not believed by the jury. *disavow*, *v.*

**disband** *v.* dissolve; disperse. The chess club *disbanded* after its disastrous initial season.

**disburse** *v.* pay out. When you *disburse* money on the company's behalf, be sure to get a receipt.

**discernible** *ADJ.* distinguishable; perceivable. The ships in the harbor were not *discernible* in the fog.

■ **discerning** *ADJ.* mentally quick and observant; having insight. Though no genius, the star was sufficiently *discerning* to distinguish her true friends from the countless phonies who flattered her. *discern*, *v.* *discernment*, *N.*

**disclaim** *v.* disown; renounce claim to. If I grant you this privilege, will you *disclaim* all other rights?

**disclose** *v.* reveal. Although competitors offered him bribes, he refused to *disclose* any information about his company's forthcoming product. *disclosure*, *N.*

**discombobulated** *ADJ.* confused; discomposed. The novice square dancer became so *discombobulated* that he wandered into the wrong set.

**discomfit** *v.* put to rout; defeat; disconcert. This ruse will *discomfit* the enemy. *discomfiture*, *N.* *discomfited*, *ADJ.*

**disconcert** *v.* confuse; upset; embarrass. The lawyer was *disconcerted* by the evidence produced by her adversary.

**disconsolate** *ADJ.* sad. The death of his wife left him *disconsolate*.

**discord** *N.* conflict; lack of harmony. Watching Tweedledum battle Tweedledee, Alice wondered what had caused this pointless *discord*.

■ **discordant** *ADJ.* not harmonious; conflicting. Nothing is quite so *discordant* as the sound of a junior high school orchestra tuning up.

**discount** *v.* disregard. Be prepared to *discount* what he has to say about his ex-wife.

**discourse** *N.* formal discussion; conversation. The young Plato was drawn to the Agora to hear the philosophical *discourse* of Socrates and his followers. also *v.*

■ **discredit** *v.* defame; destroy confidence in; disbelieve. The campaign was highly negative in tone; each candidate tried to *discredit* the other.

■ **discrepancy** *N.* lack of consistency; difference. The police noticed some *discrepancies* in his description of the crime and did not believe him.

■ **discrete** *ADJ.* separate; unconnected. The universe is composed of *discrete* bodies.

**discretion** *N.* prudence; ability to adjust actions to circumstances. Use your *discretion* in this matter and do not discuss it with anyone. *discreet*, *ADJ.*

**discriminating** *ADJ.* able to see differences; prejudiced. A superb interpreter of Picasso, she was sufficiently *discriminating* to judge the most complex works of modern art. *discrimination*, *N.*

**discursive** ADJ. digressing; rambling. As the lecturer wandered from topic to topic, we wondered what if any point there was to his *discursive* remarks.

**disdain** V. view with scorn or contempt. In the film *Funny Face*, the bookish heroine *disdained* fashion models for their lack of intellectual interests. also N.

**disembark** V. go ashore; unload cargo from a ship. Before the passengers could *disembark*, they had to pick up their passports from the ship's purser.

**disenfranchise** V. deprive of a civil right. The imposition of the poll tax effectively *disenfranchised* poor Southern blacks, who lost their right to vote.

**disengage** V. uncouple; separate; disconnect. A standard movie routine involves the hero's desperate attempt to *disengage* a railroad car from a moving train.

**disfigure** V. mar the appearance of; spoil. An ugly frown *disfigured* her normally pleasant face.

**disgorge** V. surrender something; eject; vomit. Unwilling to *disgorge* the cash he had stolen from the pension fund, the embezzler tried to run away.

**disgruntle** V. make discontented. The passengers were *disgruntled* by the numerous delays.

## Test

### Word List 14 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

196. DEROGATORY (A) roguish (B) immediate (C) opinionated (D) praising (E) conferred
197. DESECRATE (A) desist (B) integrate (C) confuse (D) intensify (E) consecrate
198. DESPICABLE (A) steering (B) worthy of esteem (C) inevitable (D) featureless (E) incapable
199. DESTITUTE (A) affluent (B) dazzling (C) stationary (D) characteristic (E) explanatory
200. DEVOID (A) latent (B) eschewed (C) full of (D) suspecting (E) evident
201. DEVOUT (A) quiet (B) dual (C) impious (D) straightforward (E) wrong

202. DIABOLICAL (A) mischievous (B) lavish (C) seraphic (D) azure (E) redolent
203. DIATRIBE (A) mass (B) range (C) eulogy (D) elegy (E) starvation
204. DIFFIDENCE (A) sharpness (B) boldness (C) malcontent (D) dialogue (E) catalog
205. DILATE (A) procrastinate (B) contract (C) conclude (D) participate (E) divert
206. DILATORY (A) narrowing (B) prompt (C) enlarging (D) portentous (E) sour
207. DIMINUTION (A) expectation (B) context (C) validity (D) appreciation (E) difficulty
208. DIN (A) lightness (B) safety (C) silence (D) hunger (E) promptness
209. DISABUSE (A) crash (B) violate (C) renege (D) control (E) deceive
210. DISCONSOLATE (A) unprejudiced (B) thankful (C) theatrical (D) joyous (E) prominent

### Word List 15 dishearten-duplicity

**dishearten** V. discourage. His failure to pass the bar exam *disheartened* him.

**disheveled** ADJ. untidy. Your *disheveled* appearance will hurt your chances in this interview.

**disinclination** N. unwillingness. Some mornings I feel a great *disinclination* to get out of bed.

■ **disingenuous** ADJ. not naive; sophisticated. Although he was young, his remarks indicated that he was *disingenuous*.

**disinter** V. dig up; unearth. They *disinterred* the body and held an autopsy.

■ **disinterested** ADJ. unprejudiced. Given the judge's political ambitions and the lawyers' financial interest in the case, the only *disinterested* person in the courtroom may have been the court reporter.

■ **disjointed** ADJ. disconnected. His remarks were so *disjointed* that we could not follow his reasoning.

**disjunction** N. act or state of separation; disunity. Believing the mind could greatly affect the body's health, the holistic doctor rejected the notion of a necessary *disjunction* of mind and body.

**dislodge** V. remove (forcibly). Thrusting her fist up under the choking man's lower ribs, Margaret used the Heimlich maneuver to *dislodge* the food caught in his throat.

**dismantle** V. take apart. When the show closed, they *dismantled* the scenery before storing it.

**dismember** V. cut into small parts. When the Austrian Empire was *dismembered*, several new countries were established.

■ **dismiss** V. eliminate from consideration; reject. Believing in John's love for her, she *dismissed* the notion that he might be unfaithful. (secondary meaning)

■ **disparage** V. belittle. A doting mother, Emma was more likely to praise her son's crude attempts at art than to *disparage* them.



■ **disparate** ADJ. basically different; unrelated. Unfortunately Tony and Tina have *disparate* notions of marriage: Tony sees it as a carefree extended love affair, while Tina sees it as a solemn commitment to build a family and a home.

**disparity** N. difference; condition of inequality. Their *disparity* in rank made no difference at all to the prince and Cinderella.

**dispassionate** ADJ. calm; impartial. Known in the company for his cool judgment, Bill could impartially examine the causes of a problem, giving a *dispassionate* analysis of what had gone wrong, and go on to suggest how to correct the mess.

**dispatch** N. speediness; prompt execution; message sent with all due speed. Young Napoleon defeated the enemy with all possible *dispatch*; he then sent a *dispatch* to headquarters, informing his commander of the great victory. also v.

**dispel** V. scatter; drive away; cause to vanish. The bright sunlight eventually *dispelled* the morning mist.

**disperse** V. scatter. The police fired tear gas into the crowd to *disperse* the protesters. *dispersion*, N.

**dispirited** ADJ. lacking in spirit. The coach used all the tricks at his command to buoy up the enthusiasm of his team, which had become *dispirited* at the loss of the star player.

**disport** V. amuse. The popularity of Florida as a winter resort is constantly increasing; each year, thousands more *disport* themselves at Miami and Palm Beach.

**disputatious** ADJ. argumentative; fond of arguing. Convinced he knew more than his lawyers, Tony was a *disputatious* client, ready to argue about the best way to conduct the case.

**disquietude** N. uneasiness; anxiety. When Holmes had been gone for a day, Watson felt only a slight sense of *disquietude*, but after a week with no word, Watson's uneasiness about his missing friend had grown into a deep fear for Holmes's safety. *disquiet*, V., N.

**disquisition** N. a formal systematic inquiry; an explanation of the results of a formal inquiry. In his *disquisition*, he outlined the steps he had taken in reaching his conclusions.

**dissection** N. analysis; cutting apart in order to examine. The *dissection* of frogs in the laboratory is particularly unpleasant to some students.

■ **dissemble** V. disguise; pretend. Even though John tried to *dissemble* his motive for taking modern dance, we all knew he was there not to dance but to meet girls.

■ **disseminate** V. distribute; spread; scatter (like seeds). By their use of the Internet, propagandists have been able to *disseminate* their pet doctrines to new audiences around the globe.

**dissent** V. disagree. In the recent Supreme Court decision, Justice O'Connor *dissented* from the majority opinion. also N.

**dissertation** N. formal essay. In order to earn a graduate degree from many of our universities, a candidate is frequently required to prepare a *dissertation* on some scholarly subject.

**dissident** ADJ. dissenting; rebellious. In the purge that followed the student demonstrations at Tianamen Square, the government hunted down the *dissident* students and their supporters. also N.

**dissimulate** V. pretend; conceal by feigning. She tried to *dissimulate* her grief by her exuberant attitude.

**dissipate** V. squander; waste; scatter. He is a fine artist, but I fear he may *dissipate* his gifts if he keeps wasting his time playing Trivial Pursuit.

■ **dissolution** N. disintegration; looseness in morals. The profligacy and *dissolution* of life in Caligula's Rome appall some historians. *dissolute*, ADJ.

■ **dissonance** N. discord; opposite of harmony. Composer Charles Ives often used *dissonance*—clashing or unresolved chords—for special effects in his musical works. *dissonant*, ADJ.

**dissuade** V. persuade not to do; discourage. Since Tom could not *dissuade* Huck from running away from home, he decided to run away with his friend. *dissuasion*, N.

**distant** ADJ. reserved or aloof; cold in manner. Her *distant* greeting made me feel unwelcome from the start. (secondary meaning)

■ **distend** V. expand; swell out. I can tell when he is under stress by the way the veins *distend* on his forehead.

■ **distill** V. purify; refine; concentrate. A moonshiner *distills* mesh into whiskey; an epigrammatist *distills* thoughts into quips.

**distinction** N. honor; contrast; discrimination. A holder of the Medal of Honor, George served with great *distinction* in World War II. He made a *distinction*, however, between World War II and Vietnam, which he considered an immoral conflict.

**distort** V. twist out of shape. It is difficult to believe the newspaper accounts of the riots because of the way some reporters *distort* and exaggerate the actual events. *distortion*, N.

**distract** ADJ. absentminded. Because of his concentration on the problem, the professor often appeared *distract* and unconcerned about routine.

**distraught** ADJ. upset; distracted by anxiety. The *distraught* parents frantically searched the ravine for their lost child.

**diurnal** ADJ. daily. A farmer cannot neglect his *diurnal* tasks at any time; cows, for example, must be milked regularly.

**diva** N. operatic singer; prima donna. Although world famous as a *diva*, she did not indulge in fits of temperament.

■ **diverge** V. vary; go in different directions from the same point. The spokes of the wheel *diverge* from the hub.

**divergent** ADJ. differing; deviating. Since graduating from medical school, the two doctors have followed *divergent* paths, the one going on to become a nationally prominent surgeon, the other dedicating himself to a small family practice in his hometown. *divergence*, N.

**diverse** ADJ. differing in some characteristics; various. The professor suggested *diverse* ways of approaching the assignment and recommended that we choose one of them.

**diversion** N. act of turning aside; pastime. After studying for several hours, he needed a *diversion* from work. **divert**, v.

**diversity** N. variety; dissimilitude. The *diversity* of colleges in this country indicates that many levels of ability are being served.

■ **divest** v. strip; deprive. He was *divested* of his power to act and could no longer govern. **divestiture**, N.

**divine** v. perceive intuitively; foresee the future. Nothing infuriated Tom more than Aunt Polly's ability to *divine* when he was not telling the truth.

**divulge** v. reveal. No lover of gossip, Charlotte would never *divulge* anything that a friend told her in confidence.

**docile** ADJ. obedient; easily managed. As *docile* as he seems today, that old lion was once a ferocious, snarling beast. **docility**, N.

**docket** N. program as for trial; book where such entries are made. The case of *Smith v. Jones* was entered in the *docket* for July 15. also v.

**doctrinaire** ADJ. unable to compromise about points of doctrine; dogmatic; unyielding. Weng had hoped that the student-led democracy movement might bring about change in China, but the repressive response of the *doctrinaire* hard-liners crushed his dreams of democracy.

**doctrine** N. teachings in general; particular principle (religious, legal, etc.) taught. He was so committed to the *doctrines* of his faith that he was unable to evaluate them impartially.

■ **document** v. provide written evidence. She kept all the receipts from her business trip in order to *document* her expenses for the firm. also N.

**doddering** ADJ. shaky; infirm from old age. Although he is not as yet a *doddering* and senile old man, his ideas and opinions no longer can merit the respect we gave them years ago.

**doff** v. take off. A gentleman used to *doff* his hat to a lady.

**dogged** ADJ. determined; stubborn. *Les Misérables* tells of Inspector Javert's long, *dogged* pursuit of the criminal Jean Valjean.

**doggerel** N. poor verse. Although we find occasional snatches of genuine poetry in her work, most of her writing is mere *doggerel*.

■ **dogmatic** ADJ. opinionated; arbitrary; doctrinal. We tried to discourage Doug from being so *dogmatic*, but never could convince him that his opinions might be wrong.

**doldrums** N. blues; listlessness; slack period. Once the excitement of meeting her deadline was over, she found herself in the *doldrums*.

**dolorous** ADJ. sorrowful. He found the *dolorous* lamentations of the bereaved family emotionally disturbing and he left as quickly as he could.

**dolt** N. stupid person. I thought I was talking to a mature audience; instead, I find myself addressing a pack of *dolts*.

**domicile** N. home. Although his legal *domicile* was in New York City, his work kept him away from his residence for many years. also v.

**domineer** v. rule over tyrannically. Students prefer teachers who guide, not ones who *domineer*.

**don** v. put on. When Clark Kent had to *don* his Superman outfit, he changed clothes in a convenient phone booth.

■ **dormant** ADJ. sleeping; lethargic; latent. At fifty her long-*dormant* ambition to write flared up once more; within a year she had completed the first of her great historical novels. **dormancy**, N.

**dormer** N. window projecting from roof. In remodeling the attic into a bedroom, we decided that we needed to put in *dormers* to provide sufficient ventilation for the new room.

**dorsal** ADJ. relating to the back of an animal. A shark may be identified by its *dorsal* fin, which projects above the surface of the ocean.

**dossier** N. file of documents on a subject. Ordered by J. Edgar Hoover to investigate the senator, the FBI compiled a complete *dossier* on him.

**dotage** N. senility. In his *dotage*, the old man bored us with long tales of events in his childhood.

**dote** v. be excessively fond of; show signs of mental decline. Not only grandmothers bore you with stories about their brilliant grandchildren; grandfathers *dote* on the little rascals, too.

**dour** ADJ. sullen; stubborn. The man was *dour* and taciturn.

**douse** v. plunge into water; drench; extinguish. They *doused* each other with hoses and water balloons.

**dowdy** ADJ. slovenly; untidy. She tried to change her *dowdy* image by buying a fashionable new wardrobe.

**downcast** ADJ. disheartened; sad. Cheerful and optimistic by nature, Beth was never *downcast* despite the difficulties she faced.

**drab** ADJ. dull; lacking color; cheerless. The Dutch woman's *drab* winter coat contrasted with the distinctive, colorful native costume she wore beneath it.

**draconian** ADJ. extremely severe. When the principal canceled the senior prom because some seniors had been late to school that week, we thought the *draconian* punishment was far too harsh for such a minor violation of the rules.

**dregs** N. sediment; worthless residue. David poured the wine carefully to avoid stirring up the *dregs*.

**drivel** N. nonsense; foolishness. Why do I have to spend my days listening to such idiotic *drivel*? *Drivel* is related to dribble: think of a dribbling, *driveling* idiot.

**droll** ADJ. queer and amusing. He was a popular guest because his *droll* anecdotes were always entertaining.

**drone** N. idle person; male bee. Content to let his wife support him, the would-be writer was in reality nothing but a *drone*.

**drone** V. talk dully; buzz or murmur like a bee. On a gorgeous day, who wants to be stuck in a classroom listening to the teacher *drone*?

**dross** N. waste matter; worthless impurities. Many methods have been devised to separate the valuable metal from the *dross*.

**drudgery** N. menial work. Cinderella's fairy godmother rescued her from a life of *drudgery*.

**dubious** ADJ. questionable; filled with doubt. Some critics of the GRE contend the test is of *dubious* worth. Tony claimed he could get a perfect score on the test, but Tina was *dubious*: she knew he hadn't cracked a book in three years. *dubiety*, N.

**ductile** ADJ. malleable; flexible; pliable. Copper is an extremely *ductile* material: you can stretch it into the thinnest of wires, bend it, even wind it into loops. *ductility*, N.

**dulcet** ADJ. sweet sounding. The *dulcet* sounds of the birds at dawn were soon drowned out by the roar of traffic passing our motel.

**dumbfound** V. astonish. Egbert's perfect score on the GRE *dumbfounded* his classmates, who had always considered him to be utterly dumb.

■ **dupe** N. someone easily fooled. While the gullible Watson often was made a *dupe* by unscrupulous parties, Sherlock Holmes was far more difficult to fool.

**duplicity** N. double-dealing; hypocrisy. When Tanya learned that Mark had been two-timing her, she was furious at his *duplicity*. *duplicitous*, ADJ.

## Test

### Word List 15      *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

211. DISINGENUOUS (A) uncomfortable (B) eventual (C) naive (D) complex (E) enthusiastic

212. DISINTERESTED (A) prejudiced (B) horrendous (C) affected (D) arbitrary (E) bored

213. DISJOINTED (A) satisfied (B) carved (C) understood (D) connected (E) evicted

214. DISPARITY (A) resonance (B) elocution (C) relief (D) difference (E) symbolism

215. DISPASSIONATE (A) sensual (B) immoral (C) inhibited (D) impartial (E) scientific

216. DISPIRITED (A) current (B) dented (C) drooping (D) alcoholic (E) dallying

217. DISSIPATE (A) economize (B) clean (C) accept (D) anticipate (E) withdraw

218. DISTEND (A) bloat (B) adjust (C) exist (D) materialize (E) finish

219. DISTRAIT (A) clever (B) industrial (C) absentminded (D) narrow (E) crooked

220. DIVULGE (A) look (B) refuse (C) deride (D) reveal (E) harm

221. DOFF (A) withdraw (B) take off (C) remain (D) control (E) start

222. DOGMATIC (A) benign (B) canine (C) impatient (D) petulant (E) arbitrary

223. DOTAGE (A) senility (B) silence (C) sensitivity (D) interest (E) generosity

224. DOUR (A) sullen (B) ornamental (C) grizzled (D) lacking speech (E) international

225. DROLL (A) rotund (B) amusing (C) fearsome (D) tiny (E) strange

### Word List 16      *duration-encroachment*

**duration** N. length of time something lasts. Because she wanted the children to make a good impression on the dinner guests, Mother promised them a treat if they'd behave well for the *duration* of the meal.

**duress** N. forcible restraint, especially unlawfully. The hostages were held under *duress* until the prisoners' demands were met.

**dutiful** ADJ. respectful; obedient. When Mother told Billy to kiss Great-Aunt Hattie, the boy obediently gave the old woman a *dutiful* peck on her cheek.

**dwindle** V. shrink; reduce. The food in the lifeboat gradually *dwindled* away to nothing.

**dynamic** ADJ. energetic; vigorously active. The *dynamic* aerobics instructor kept her students on the run; she was a little *dynamo*.

**dyspeptic** ADJ. suffering from indigestion. All the talk about rich food made him feel *dyspeptic*. *dyspepsia*, N.

**earthy** ADJ. unrefined; coarse. His *earthy* remarks often embarrassed the women in his audience.

**ebb** v. recede; lessen. Sitting on the beach, Mrs. Dalloway watched the tide *ebb*: the waters receded, drawing away from her as she sat there all alone. also N.

■ **ebullient** ADJ. showing excitement; overflowing with enthusiasm. Amy's *ebullient* nature could not be repressed; she was always bubbling over with excitement. *ebullience*, N.

**eccentric** ADJ. irregular; odd; whimsical; bizarre. The comet veered dangerously close to the earth in its *eccentric* orbit. People came up with some *eccentric* ideas for dealing with the emergency: one kook suggested tying a knot in the comet's tail!

**eccentricity** N. oddity; idiosyncrasy. Some of his friends tried to account for his rudeness to strangers as the *eccentricity* of genius.

**ecclesiastic** ADJ. pertaining to the church. The minister donned his *ecclesiastic* garb and walked to the pulpit. also N.

■ **eclectic** ADJ. selective; composed of elements drawn from disparate sources. His style of interior decoration was *eclectic*: bits and pieces of furnishings from widely divergent periods, strikingly juxtaposed to create a unique decor. *eclecticism*, N.

**eclipse** v. darken; extinguish; surpass. The new stock market high *eclipsed* the previous record set in 1985.

**ecologist** N. person concerned with the interrelationship between living organisms and their environment. The *ecologist* was concerned that the new dam would upset the natural balance of the creatures living in Glen Canyon.

**economy** N. efficiency or conciseness in using something. Reading the epigrams of Pope, I admire the *economy* of his verse: in few words he conveys worlds of meaning. (secondary meaning)

**ecstasy** N. rapture; joy; any overpowering emotion. When Allison received her long-hoped-for letter of acceptance from Harvard, she was in *ecstasy*. *ecstatic*, ADJ.

**eddy** N. swirling current of water, air, etc. The water in the tide pool was still, except for an occasional *eddy*. also v.

**edict** N. decree (especially one issued by a sovereign); official command. The emperor issued an *edict* decreeing that everyone should come see him model his magnificent new clothes.

**edify** v. instruct; correct morally. Although his purpose was to *edify* and not to entertain his audience, many of his listeners were amused and not enlightened.

**eerie** ADJ. weird. In that *eerie* setting, it was easy to believe in ghosts and other supernatural beings.

**efface** v. rub out. The coin had been handled so many times that its date had been *effaced*.

**effectual** ADJ. able to produce a desired effect; valid. Medical researchers are concerned because of the development of drug-resistant strains of bacteria; many once-useful antibiotics are no longer *effectual* in curing bacterial infections.

**effeminate** ADJ. having womanly traits. His voice was high-pitched and *effeminate*.

**effervescence** N. inner excitement or exuberance; bubbling from fermentation or carbonation. Nothing depressed Sue for long; her natural *effervescence* soon reasserted itself. Soda that loses its *effervescence* goes flat. *effervescent*, ADJ. *effervesce*, v.

**effete** ADJ. worn out; exhausted; barren. The literature of the age reflected the *effete* condition of the writers; no new ideas were forthcoming.

■ **efficacy** N. power to produce desired effect. The *efficacy* of this drug depends on the regularity of the dosage. *efficacious*, ADJ.

**effigy** N. dummy. The mob showed its irritation by hanging the judge in *effigy*.

**effluvium** N. noxious smell. Air pollution has become a serious problem in our major cities; the *effluvium* and the poisons in the air are hazards to life. *effluvia*, PL.

■ **effrontery** N. shameless boldness. She had the *effrontery* to insult the guest.

**effusion** N. pouring forth. The critics objected to her literary *effusion* because it was too flowery.

**effusive** ADJ. pouring forth; gushing. Her *effusive* manner of greeting her friends finally began to irritate them.

**egoism** N. excessive interest in one's self; belief that one should be interested in one's self rather than in others. His *egoism* prevented him from seeing the needs of his colleagues.

**egotistical** ADJ. excessively self-centered; self-important; conceited. Typical *egotistical* remark: "But enough of this chitchat about you and your little problems. Let's talk about what's really important: me!" *egotistic*, ADJ. *egotism*, N.

**egregious** ADJ. notorious; conspicuously bad or shocking. She was an *egregious* liar; we all knew better than to believe a word she said. Ed's housekeeping was *egregious*: he let his dirty dishes pile up so long that they were stuck together with last week's food.

**egress** N. exit. Barnum's sign "To the *Egress*" fooled many people who thought they were going to see an animal and instead found themselves in the street.

**ejaculation** N. exclamation. He could not repress an *ejaculation* of surprise when he heard the news.

**elaboration** N. addition of details; intricacy. Tell what happened simply, without any *elaboration*. *elaborate*, v.

**elated** ADJ. overjoyed; in high spirits. Grinning from ear to ear, Bonnie Blair was clearly *elated* by her fifth Olympic gold medal. *elation*, N.

■ **elegy** N. poem or song expressing lamentation. On the death of Edward King, Milton composed the *elegy* "Lycidas." *elegiacal*, ADJ.

■ **elicit** v. draw out by discussion. The detectives tried to *elicit* where he had hidden his loot.

**elixir** N. cure-all; something invigorating. The news of her chance to go abroad acted on her like an *elixir*.

**ellipsis** N. omission of words from a text. Sometimes an *ellipsis* can lead to a dangling modifier, as in the sentence "Once dressed, ... you should refrigerate the potato salad."

**elliptical** ADJ. oval; ambiguous, either purposely or because key words have been left out. An *elliptical* billiard ball wobbles because it is not perfectly round; an *elliptical* remark baffles because it is not perfectly clear.

**eloquence** N. expressiveness; persuasive speech. The crowds were stirred by Martin Luther King's *eloquence*.

**elucidate** V. explain; enlighten. He was called upon to *elucidate* the disputed points in his article.

**elusive** ADJ. evasive; baffling; hard to grasp. Trying to pin down exactly when the contractors would be done remodeling the house, Nancy was frustrated by their *elusive* replies. *elude*, v.

**elysian** ADJ. relating to paradise; blissful. An afternoon sail on the bay was for her an *elysian* journey.

**emaciated** ADJ. thin and wasted. His long period of starvation had left him *emaciated*.

**emanate** V. issue forth. A strong odor of sulfur *emanated* from the spring.

**emancipate** V. set free. At first, the attempts of the Abolitionists to *emancipate* the slaves were unpopular in New England as well as in the South.

**embargo** N. ban on commerce or other activity. As a result of the *embargo*, trade with the colonies was at a standstill.

**embark** V. commence; go on board a boat; begin a journey. In devoting herself to the study of gorillas, Dian Fossey *embarked* on a course of action that was to cost her her life.

**embed** V. enclose; place in something. Tales of actual historical figures like King Alfred have become *embedded* in legends.

■ **embellish** V. adorn; ornament; enhance, as a story. The costume designer *embellished* the leading lady's ball gown with yards and yards of ribbon and lace.

**embezzlement** N. stealing. The bank teller confessed his *embezzlement* of the funds.

**emboss** V. produce a design in raised relief. The secretary of the corporation uses a special stamp to *emboss* the corporate seal on all official documents.

**embrace** V. hug; adopt or espouse; accept readily; encircle; include. Clasp ing Maid Marian in his arms, Robin Hood *embraced* her lovingly. In joining the outlaws in Sherwood Forest, she had openly *embraced* their cause. also N.

**embroider** V. decorate with needlework; ornament with fancy or fictitious details. For her mother's birthday, Beth *embroidered* a lovely design on a handkerchief. When asked what made her late getting home, Jo *embroidered* her account with tales of runaway horses and rescuing people from a ditch. *embroidery*, N.

**embroil** V. throw into confusion; involve in strife; entangle. He became *embroiled* in the heated discussion when he tried to arbitrate the dispute.

**embryonic** ADJ. undeveloped; rudimentary. The evil of class and race hatred must be eliminated while it is still in an *embryonic* state; otherwise, it may grow to dangerous proportions.

**emend** V. correct, usually a text. The critic *emended* the book by retranslating several passages.

**emendation** N. correction of errors; improvement. Please initial all the *emendations* you have made in this contract.

**emetic** N. substance causing vomiting. Ingesting an *emetic* like mustard is useful in some cases of poisoning.

**eminent** ADJ. high; lofty. After her appointment to this *eminent* position, she seldom had time for her former friends.

**emissary** N. agent; messenger. The Secretary of State was sent as the president's special *emissary* to the conference on disarmament.

**emollient** N. soothing or softening remedy. He applied an *emollient* to the inflamed area. also ADJ.

**emolument** N. salary; compensation. In addition to the *emolument* this position offers, you must consider the social prestige it carries with it.

**empathy** N. ability to identify with another's feelings, ideas, etc. What made Ann such a fine counselor was her *empathy*, her ability to put herself in her client's place and feel his emotions as if they were her own. *empathize*, v.

■ **empirical** ADJ. based on experience. He distrusted hunches and intuitive flashes; he placed his reliance entirely on *empirical* data.

■ **emulate** V. imitate; rival. In the brief essay, describe a person you admire, someone whose virtues you would like to *emulate*.

**enamored** ADJ. in love. Narcissus became *enamored* of his own beauty.

**encipher** V. encode; convert a message into code. In one of Bond's first lessons he learned how to *encipher* the messages he sent to Miss Moneybags so that none of his other lady friends could read them.

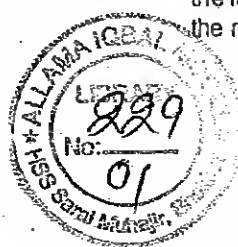
**enclave** N. territory enclosed within an alien land. The Vatican is an independent *enclave* in Italy.

**encomiastic** ADJ. praising; eulogistic. Some critics believe that his *encomiastic* statements about Napoleon were inspired by his desire for material advancement rather than by an honest belief in the Emperor's genius.

**encomium** N. high praise; eulogy. Uneasy with the *encomiums* expressed by his supporters, Tolkien felt unworthy of such high praise.

**encompass** V. surround. Although we were *encompassed* by enemy forces, we were cheerful for we were well stocked and could withstand a siege until our allies joined us.

**encroachment** N. gradual intrusion. The *encroachment* of the factories upon the neighborhood lowered the value of the real estate.



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## Test

Word List 16      *Synonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

226. DWINDLE (A) blow (B) inhabit (C) spin (D) lessen (E) combine
227. ECSTASY (A) joy (B) speed (C) treasure (D) warmth (E) lack
228. EDIFY (A) mystify (B) suffice (C) improve (D) erect (E) entertain
229. EFFACE (A) countenance (B) encourage (C) recognize (D) blackball (E) rub out
230. EFFIGY (A) requisition (B) organ (C) charge (D) accordion (E) dummy
231. EGREGIOUS (A) pious (B) shocking (C) anxious (D) sociable (E) gloomy

232. EGRESS (A) entrance (B) bird (C) exit (D) double (E) progress
233. ELATED (A) debased (B) respectful (C) drooping (D) gay (E) charitable
234. ELUSIVE (A) deadly (B) eloping (C) evasive (D) simple (E) petrified
235. EMACIATED (A) garrulous (B) primeval (C) vigorous (D) disparate (E) thin
236. EMANCIPATE (A) set free (B) take back (C) make worse (D) embolden (E) run away
237. EMBELLISH (A) doff (B) don (C) abscond (D) adorn (E) equalize
238. EMBROIL (A) cherish (B) overheat (C) entangle (D) assure (E) worry
239. EMENDATION (A) correction (B) interpretation (C) exhumation (D) inquiry (E) fault
240. EMINENT (A) purposeful (B) high (C) delectable (D) curious (E) urgent

Word List 17      *encumber-eulogistic*

**encumber** v. burden. Some people *encumber* themselves with too much luggage when they take short trips.

**endearment** n. fond word or act. Your gifts and *endearments* cannot make me forget your earlier insolence.

■ **endemic** adj. prevailing among a specific group of people or in a specific area or country. This disease is *endemic* in this part of the world; more than 80 percent of the population are at one time or another affected by it.

**endorse** v. approve; support. Everyone waited to see which one of the rival candidates for the city council the mayor would *endorse*. (secondary meaning) **endorsement**, n.

**endue** v. provide with some quality; endow. He was *endued* with a lion's courage.

**enduring** adj. lasting; surviving. Keats believed in the *enduring* power of great art, which would outlast its creators' brief lives.

**energize** v. invigorate; make forceful and active. Rather than exhausting Maggie, dancing *energized* her.

■ **enervate** v. weaken. She was slow to recover from her illness; even a short walk to the window *enervated* her. **enervation**, n.

**enfranchise** v. admit to the rights of citizenship (especially the right to vote). Although blacks were *enfranchised* shortly after the Civil War, women did not receive the right to vote until 1920.

**engage** v. attract; hire; pledge oneself; confront. "Your case has *engaged* my interest, my lord," said Holmes. "You may *engage* my services."

**engaging** adj. charming; attractive. Everyone liked Nancy's pleasant manners and *engaging* personality.

■ **engender** v. cause; produce. To receive praise for real accomplishments *engenders* self-confidence in a child.

**engross** v. occupy fully. John was so *engrossed* in his studies that he did not hear his mother call.

■ **enhance** v. increase; improve. You can *enhance* your chances of being admitted to the college of your choice by learning to write well; an excellent essay will *enhance* any application.

**enigma** n. puzzle; mystery. "What do women want?" asked Dr. Sigmund Freud. Their behavior was an *enigma* to him.

**enigmatic** adj. obscure; puzzling. Many have sought to fathom the *enigmatic* smile of the *Mona Lisa*.

**enjoin** v. command; order; forbid. The owners of the company asked the court to *enjoin* the union from picketing the plant.

**enmity** n. ill will; hatred. At Camp David President Carter labored to bring an end to the *enmity* that prevented Egypt and Israel from living in peace.

**ennui** n. boredom. The monotonous routine of hospital life induced a feeling of *ennui* that made her moody and irritable.

**enormity** n. hugeness (in a bad sense). He did not realize the *enormity* of his crime until he saw what suffering he had caused.



**enrapture** v. please intensely. The audience was *enraptured* by the freshness of the voices and the excellent orchestration.

**ensconce** v. settle comfortably. Now that their children were *ensconced* safely in the private school, the jet-setting parents decided to leave for Europe.

**ensue** v. follow. The evils that *ensued* were the direct result of the miscalculations of the leaders.

**entail** v. require; necessitate; involve. Building a college-level vocabulary will *entail* some work on your part.

**enterprising** ADJ. full of initiative. By coming up with fresh ways to market the company's products, Mike proved himself to be an *enterprising* businessman.

**enthral** v. capture; enslave. From the moment he saw her picture, he was *enthralled* by her beauty.

**entice** v. lure; attract; tempt. She always tried to *entice* her baby brother into mischief.

**entity** N. real being. As soon as the charter was adopted, the United Nations became an *entity* and had to be considered as a factor in world diplomacy.

**entomology** N. study of insects. Kent found *entomology* the most annoying part of his biology course; studying insects bugged him.

**entrance** v. put under a spell; carry away with emotion. Shafts of sunlight on a wall could *entrance* her and leave her spellbound.

**entreat** v. plead; ask earnestly. She *entreated* her father to let her stay out till midnight.

**entree** N. entrance; a way in. Because of his wealth and social position, he had *entree* into the most exclusive circles.

**entrepreneur** N. businessperson; contractor. Opponents of our present tax program argue that it discourages *entrepreneurs* from trying new fields of business activity.

**enumerate** v. list; mention one by one. Huck hung his head in shame as Miss Watson *enumerated* his many flaws.

**enunciate** v. utter or speak, especially distinctly. Stop mumbling! How will people understand you if you do not *enunciate* clearly?

**environ** v. enclose; surround. In medieval days, Paris was *environed* by a wall. *environs*, N.

**eon** N. long period of time; an age. It has taken *eons* for our civilization to develop.

**epaulet** N. ornament worn on the shoulder (of a uniform, etc.). The shoulder loops on Sam Spade's trench coat are the nonmilitary counterparts of the fringed *epaulets* on George Washington's uniform.

■ **ephemeral** ADJ. short-lived; fleeting. The mayfly is an *ephemeral* creature; its adult life lasts little more than a day.

**epic** N. long heroic poem, novel, or similar work of art. Kurosawa's film *Seven Samurai* is an *epic* portraying the struggle of seven warriors to destroy a band of robbers. also ADJ.

**epicure** N. connoisseur of food and drink. *Epicures* frequent this restaurant because it features exotic wines and dishes. *epicurean*, ADJ.

**epigram** N. witty thought or saying, usually short. Poor Richard's *epigrams* made Benjamin Franklin famous.

**epilogue** N. short speech at conclusion of dramatic work. The audience was so disappointed in the play that many did not remain to hear the *epilogue*.

**episodic** ADJ. loosely connected. Though he tried to follow the plot of *Gravity's Rainbow*, John found the novel too *episodic*.

**epistemologist** N. philosopher who studies the nature of knowledge. "What is more important, a knowledge of nature or the nature of knowledge?" the *epistemologist* asked the naturalist.

**epitaph** N. inscription in memory of a dead person. In his will, he dictated the *epitaph* he wanted placed on his tombstone.

**epithet** N. word or phrase characteristically used to describe a person or thing. So many kings of France were named Charles that modern students need *epithets* to tell them apart: Charles the Wise, for example, was someone far different from Charles the Fat.

**epitome** N. perfect example or embodiment. Singing "I am the very model of a modern Major-General" in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Major-General Stanley proclaimed himself the *epitome* of an officer and a gentleman. *epitomize*, v.

**epoch** N. period of time. The glacial *epoch* lasted for thousands of years.

**equable** ADJ. tranquil; steady; uniform. After the hot summers and cold winters of New England, she found the climate of the West Indies *equable* and pleasant.

■ **equanimity** N. calmness of temperament; composure. Even the inevitable strains of caring for an ailing mother did not disturb Bea's *equanimity*.

**equestrian** N. rider on horseback. These paths in the park are reserved for *equestrians* and their steeds. also ADJ.

**equilibrium** N. balance. After the divorce, he needed some time to regain his *equilibrium*.

**equine** ADJ. resembling a horse. Her long, bony face had an *equine* look to it.

**equinox** N. period of equal days and nights; the beginning of spring and autumn. The vernal *equinox* is usually marked by heavy rainstorms.

**equipoise** N. balance; balancing force; equilibrium. The high-wire acrobat used his pole as an *equipoise* to overcome the swaying caused by the wind.

**equitable** ADJ. fair; impartial. I am seeking an *equitable* solution to this dispute, one that will be fair and acceptable to both sides.

**equity** N. fairness; justice. Our courts guarantee *equity* to all.

**equivocal** ADJ. ambiguous; intentionally misleading. Rejecting the candidate's *equivocal* comments on tax reform, the reporters pressed him to state clearly where he stood on the issue. *equivocate*, v. *equivocation*, N.

■ **equivocate** v. lie; mislead; attempt to conceal the truth. The audience saw through his attempts to *equivocate* on the subject under discussion and ridiculed his remarks.

**erode** v. eat away. The limestone was *eroded* by the dripping water until only a thin shell remained. **erosion**, n.

**erotic** ADJ. pertaining to passionate love. The *erotic* passages in this novel should be removed as they are merely pornographic.

**errant** ADJ. wandering. Many a charming tale has been written about the knights-*errant* who helped the weak and punished the guilty during the Age of Chivalry.

**erratic** ADJ. odd; unpredictable. Investors become anxious when the stock market appears *erratic*.

**erroneous** ADJ. mistaken; wrong. I thought my answer was correct, but it was *erroneous*.

■ **erudite** ADJ. learned; scholarly. Though his fellow students thought him *erudite*, Paul knew he would have to spend many years in serious study before he could consider himself a scholar. **erudition**, n.

**escapade** n. prank; flighty conduct. The headmaster could not regard this latest *escapade* as a boyish joke and expelled the young man.

**eschew** v. avoid. Hoping to present himself to his girlfriend as a totally reformed character, he tried to *eschew* all the vices, especially chewing tobacco and drinking bathtub gin.

■ **esoteric** ADJ. hard to understand; known only to the chosen few. *New Yorker* short stories often include *esoteric* allusions to obscure people and events. The implication is, if you are in the in-crowd, you'll get the reference; if you come from Cleveland, you won't. **esoterica**, n.

**espionage** n. spying. In order to maintain its power, the government developed a system of *espionage* that penetrated every household.

**espouse** v. adopt; support. She was always ready to *espouse* a worthy cause.

**esteem** v. respect; value. Jill *esteemed* Jack's taste in music, but she deplored his taste in clothes. also n.

**estranged** ADJ. separated; alienated. The *estranged* wife sought a divorce. **estrangement**, n.

**ethereal** ADJ. light; heavenly; unusually refined. In Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, the spirit Ariel is an *ethereal* creature, too airy and unearthly for our mortal world.

**ethnic** ADJ. relating to races. Intolerance between *ethnic* groups is deplorable and usually is based on lack of information.

**ethnology** n. study of humankind. Sociology is one aspect of the science of *ethnology*.

**ethos** n. underlying character of a culture, group, etc. Seeing how tenderly Spaniards treated her small daughter made author Barbara Kingsolver aware of how greatly children were valued in the Spanish *ethos*.

**etymology** n. study of word parts. A knowledge of *etymology* can help you on many English tests: if you know what the roots and prefixes mean, you can determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

**eugenic** ADJ. pertaining to the improvement of race. It is easier to apply *eugenic* principles to the raising of racehorses or prize cattle than to the development of human beings.

**eulogistic** ADJ. praising. To everyone's surprise, the speech was *eulogistic* rather than critical in tone.

## Test

### Word List 17 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

241. ENERVATE (A) strengthen (B) sputter (C) arrange (D) scrutinize (E) agree
242. ENHANCE (A) degrade (B) doubt (C) scuff (D) gasp (E) avoid
243. ENNUI (A) hate (B) excitement (C) seriousness (D) humility (E) kindness
244. ENUNCIATE (A) pray (B) request (C) deliver (D) wait (E) mumble
245. EPHEMERAL (A) sensuous (B) passing (C) popular (D) distasteful (E) eternal
246. EQUABLE (A) flat (B) decisive (C) stormy (D) dishonest (E) scanty
247. EQUANIMITY (A) agitation (B) stirring (C) volume (D) identity (E) luster
248. EQUILIBRIUM (A) imbalance (B) peace (C) inequity (D) directness (E) urgency
249. EQUITABLE (A) able to leave (B) able to learn (C) unfair (D) preferable (E) rough
250. EQUIVOCAL (A) mistaken (B) quaint (C) azure (D) clear (E) universal
251. ERRATIC (A) unromantic (B) free (C) popular (D) steady (E) unknown
252. ERRONEOUS (A) accurate (B) dignified (C) curious (D) abrupt (E) round
253. ERUDITE (A) professorial (B) stately (C) short (D) unknown (E) ignorant
254. ETHEREAL (A) long-lasting (B) earthy (C) ill (D) critical (E) false
255. EULOGISTIC (A) pretty (B) critical (C) brief (D) stern (E) free

## Word List 18 eulogy-faculty

■ **eulogy** *N.* expression of praise, often on the occasion of someone's death. Instead of delivering a spoken *eulogy* at Genny's memorial service, Jeff sang a song he had written in her honor. *eulogize*, *v.*

■ **euphemism** *N.* mild expression in place of an unpleasant one. The expression "he passed away" is a *euphemism* for "he died."

**euphony** *N.* sweet sound. Noted for its *euphony* even when it is spoken, the Italian language is particularly pleasing to the ear when sung. *euphonious*, *ADJ.*

**euphoria** *N.* feeling of exaggerated (or unfounded) well-being. "Jill's been on cloud nine ever since Jack asked her out," said Betty, dismissing her friend's *euphoria*.

**euthanasia** *N.* mercy killing. Many people support *euthanasia* for terminally ill patients who wish to die.

**evanescent** *ADJ.* fleeting; vanishing. For a brief moment, the entire skyline was bathed in an orange-red hue in the *evanescent* rays of the sunset.

**evasive** *ADJ.* not frank; eluding. Your *evasive* answers convinced the judge that you were withholding important evidence. *evade*, *v.*

**evince** *v.* show clearly. When he tried to answer the questions, he *evinced* his ignorance of the subject matter.

**evenhanded** *ADJ.* impartial; fair. Do men and women receive *evenhanded* treatment from their teachers, or, as recent studies suggest, do teachers pay more attention to male students than to females?

**evocative** *ADJ.* tending to call up (emotions, memories). Scent can be remarkably *evocative*. The aroma of pipe tobacco *evokes* the memory of my father; a whiff of talcum powder calls up images of my daughter as a child.

**evoke** *v.* call forth. He *evoked* much criticism by his hostile manner. *evocation*, *N.*

**ewe** *N.* female sheep. The flock of sheep was made up of dozens of *ewes*, together with only a handful of rams.

■ **exacerbate** *v.* worsen; embitter. The latest bombing *exacerbated* England's already existing bitterness against the IRA, causing the Prime Minister to break off the peace talks abruptly. *exacerbation*, *N.*

**exacting** *ADJ.* extremely demanding. Cleaning the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was an *exacting* task, one that demanded extremely meticulous care on the part of the restorers. *exaction*, *N.*

**exalt** *v.* raise in rank or dignity; praise. The actor Sean Connery was *exalted* to the rank of knighthood by the Queen; he now is known as Sir Sean Connery.

**exasperate** *v.* vex. Johnny often *exasperates* his mother with his pranks.

**exceptionable** *ADJ.* objectionable. Do you find the punk rock band Green Day a highly *exceptionable*, thoroughly distasteful group, or do you think they are exceptionally talented performers?

**excerpt** *N.* selected passage (written or musical). The cinematic equivalent of an *excerpt* from a novel is a clip from a film. also *v.*

**exchequer** *N.* treasury. He had been Chancellor of the *Exchequer* before his promotion to the office he now holds.

**excise** *v.* cut away; cut out. When you *excise* the dead and dying limbs of a tree, you not only improve its appearance but also enhance its chances of bearing fruit. *excision*, *N.*

**exclaim** *v.* cry out suddenly. "Watson! Behind you!" Holmes *exclaimed*, seeing the assassin hurl himself on his friend. *exclamation*, *N.* *exclamatory*, *ADJ.*

**excoriate** *v.* scold with biting harshness; strip the skin off. Seeing the rips in Bill's new pants, his mother furiously *excoriated* him for ruining his good clothes. The tight, starched collar chafed and *excoriated* his neck, rubbing it raw.

■ **exculpate** *v.* clear from blame. She was *exculpated* of the crime when the real criminal confessed.

**execrable** *ADJ.* very bad. The anecdote was in such *execrable* taste that the audience was revolted.

**execrate** *v.* curse; express abhorrence for. The world *execrates* the memory of Hitler and hopes that genocide will never again be the policy of any nation.

**execute** *v.* put into effect; carry out. The choreographer wanted to see how well she could *execute* a pirouette. (secondary meaning) *execution*, *N.*

**exegesis** *N.* explanation, especially of biblical passages. I can follow your *exegesis* of this passage to a limited degree; some of your reasoning eludes me.

**exemplary** *ADJ.* serving as a model; outstanding. At commencement the dean praised Ellen for her *exemplary* behavior as class president.

**exemplify** *v.* show by example; furnish an example. Three-time winner of the Super Bowl, Joe Montana *exemplifies* the ideal quarterback.

**exempt** *ADJ.* not subject to a duty or obligation. Because of his flat feet, Foster was *exempt* from serving in the armed forces. also *v.*

**exertion** *N.* effort; expenditure of much physical work. The *exertion* involved in unscrewing the rusty bolt left her exhausted.

**exhilarating** *ADJ.* invigorating and refreshing; cheering. Though some of the hikers found tramping through the snow tiring, Jeffrey found the welk on the cold, crisp day *exhilarating*. His *exhilaration* was so great that, at the hike's end, he wanted to walk another five miles.

**exhort** *v.* urge. The evangelist *exhorted* all the sinners in the audience to reform. *exhortation*, *N.*

**exhume** *v.* dig out of the ground; remove from the grave. Could evidence that might identify the serial killer have been buried with his victim? To answer this question, the police asked the authorities for permission to *exhume* the victim's body.

■ **exigency** *n.* urgent situation. In this *exigency*, we must look for aid from our allies. *exigent*, *ADJ.*

**exiguous** *ADJ.* small; minute. Grass grew here and there, an *exiguous* outcropping among the rocks.

**existential** *ADJ.* pertaining to existence; pertaining to the philosophy of existentialism. To the *existential* philosopher, human reason is inadequate to explain an irrational, meaningless universe.

**exodus** *n.* departure. The *exodus* from the hot and stuffy city was particularly noticeable on Friday evenings.

**exonerate** *v.* acquit; exculpate. The defense team feverishly sought fresh evidence that might *exonerate* their client.

**exorbitant** *ADJ.* excessive. The people grumbled at his *exorbitant* prices but paid them because he had a monopoly.

**exorcise** *v.* drive out evil spirits. By incantation and prayer, the medicine man sought to *exorcise* the evil spirits that had taken possession of the young warrior.

**exotic** *ADJ.* not native; strange. Because of his *exotic* headdress, he was followed in the streets by small children who laughed at his strange appearance.

**expansive** *ADJ.* outgoing and sociable; broad and extensive; able to increase in size. Mr. Fezzilwig was in an *expansive* humor, cheerfully urging his guests to join in the Christmas feast. Looking down on his *expansive* paunch, he sighed: if his belly expanded any further, he'd need an *expansive* waistline for his pants.

**expatiate** *v.* talk at length. At this time, please give us a brief résumé of your work; we shall permit you to *expatiate* later.

**expatriate** *n.* exile; someone who has withdrawn from his native land. Henry James was an American *expatriate* who settled in England.

**expedient** *ADJ.* suitable; practical; politic. A pragmatic politician, she was guided by what was *expedient* rather than by what was ethical. *expedientcy*, *n.*

**expedite** *v.* hasten. Because we are on a tight schedule, we hope you will be able to *expedite* the delivery of our order. The more *expeditious* your response is, the happier we'll be.

**expenditure** *n.* payment or expense; output. When you are operating on an expense account, you must keep receipts for all your *expenditures*. If you don't save your receipts, you won't get repaid without the *expenditure* of a lot of energy arguing with the firm's accountants.

**expertise** *n.* specialized knowledge; expert skill. Although she was knowledgeable in a number of fields, she was hired for her particular *expertise* in computer programming.

**expiate** *v.* make amends for (a sin). He tried to *expiate* his crimes by a full confession to the authorities.

**expletive** *n.* interjection; profane oath. The sergeant's remarks were filled with *expletives* that offended the new recruits.

**explicate** *v.* explain; interpret; clarify. Harry Levin *explicated* James Joyce's novels with such clarity that even *Finnegan's Wake* seemed comprehensible to his students.

**explicit** *ADJ.* totally clear; definite; outspoken. Don't just hint around that you're dissatisfied; be *explicit* about what's bugging you.

**exploit** *n.* deed or action, particularly a brave deed. Raoul Wallenberg was noted for his *exploits* in rescuing Jews from Hitler's forces.

**exploit** *v.* make use of, sometimes unjustly. Cesar Chavez fought attempts to *exploit* migrant farmworkers in California. *exploitation*, *n.*

**expository** *ADJ.* explanatory; serving to explain. The manual that came with my VCR was no masterpiece of *expository* prose; its explanations were so garbled that I couldn't even figure out how to rewind a tape.

**expostulation** *n.* protest; remonstrance. Despite the teacher's scoldings and *expostulations*, the class remained unruly.

**exposure** *n.* risk, particularly of being exposed to disease or to the elements; unmasking; act of laying something open. *Exposure* to sun and wind had dried out her hair and weathered her face. She looked so changed that she no longer feared exposure as the notorious Irene Adler, one-time antagonist of Sherlock Holmes.

**expropriate** *v.* take possession of. He questioned the government's right to *expropriate* his land to create a wildlife preserve.

**expunge** *v.* cancel; remove. If you behave, I will *expunge* this notation from your record.

**expurgate** *v.* clean; remove offensive parts of a book. The editors felt that certain passages in the book had to be *expurgated* before it could be used in the classroom.

**extant** *ADJ.* still in existence. Although the book is out of print, some copies are still *extant*. Unfortunately, all of them are in libraries or private collections; none is for sale.

**extemporaneous** *ADJ.* not planned; impromptu. Because her *extemporaneous* remarks were misinterpreted, she decided to write all her speeches in advance.

**extenuate** *v.* weaken; mitigate. It is easier for us to *extenuate* our own shortcomings than those of others.

**extirpate** *v.* root up. The Salem witch trials were a misguided attempt to *extirpate* superstition and heresy.

**extol** *v.* praise; glorify. The president *extolled* the astronauts, calling them the pioneers of the Space Age.

**extort** *v.* wring from; get money by threats, etc. The blackmailer *extorted* money from his victim.

**extradition** *n.* surrender of prisoner by one state to another. The lawyers opposed the *extradition* of their client on the grounds that for more than five years he had been a model citizen.

**extraneous** *ADJ.* not essential; superfluous. No wonder Ted can't think straight! His mind is so cluttered up with *extraneous* details, he can't concentrate on the *essentials*.

■ **extrapolation** N. projection; conjecture. Based on their *extrapolation* from the results of the primaries on Super Tuesday, the networks predicted that George W. Bush would be the Republican candidate for the presidency. *extrapolate*, v.

**extricate** v. free; disentangle. Icebreakers were needed to *extricate* the trapped whales from the icy floes that closed them in.

**extrinsic** ADJ. external; not essential; extraneous. A critically acclaimed *extrinsic* feature of the Chrysler Building is its ornate spire. The judge would not admit the testimony, ruling that it was *extrinsic* to the matter at hand.

**extrovert** N. person interested mostly in external objects and actions. A good salesperson is usually an *extrovert* who likes to mingle with people.

**extrude** v. force or push out. Much pressure is required to *extrude* these plastics.

**exuberance** N. overflowing abundance; joyful enthusiasm; flamboyance; lavishness. I was bowled over by the *exuberance* of Amy's welcome. Cheeks glowing, she was the picture of *exuberant* good health.

**exude** v. discharge; give forth. The maple syrup is obtained from the sap that the trees *exude* in early spring. *exudation*, N.

**exult** v. rejoice. We *exulted* when our team won the victory.

**fabricate** v. build; lie. If we *fabricate* the buildings in this project out of standardized sections, we can reduce construction costs considerably. Because of Jack's tendency to *fabricate*, Jill had trouble believing a word he said.

**facade** N. front (of building); superficial or false appearance. The ornate *facade* of the church was often photographed by tourists, who never bothered to walk around the building to view its other sides. Cher's outward show of confidence was just a *facade* she assumed to hide her insecurity.

**facet** N. small plane surface (of a gem); a side. The stonemason decided to improve the rough diamond by providing it with several *facets*.

■ **facetious** ADJ. joking (often inappropriately); humorous. I'm serious about this project; I don't need any *facetious*, smart-alecky cracks about do-good little rich girls.

**facile** ADJ. easily accomplished; ready or fluent; superficial. Words came easily to Jonathan; he was a *facile* speaker and prided himself on being ready to make a speech at a moment's notice. *facility*, N.

■ **facilitate** v. help bring about; make less difficult. Rest and proper nourishment should *facilitate* the patient's recovery.

**facsimile** N. copy. Many museums sell *facsimiles* of the works of art on display.

**faction** N. party; clique; dissension. The quarrels and bickering of the two small *factions* within the club disturbed the majority of the members.

**factionous** ADJ. inclined to form factions; causing dissension. Your statement is *factionous* and will upset the harmony that now exists.

**factitious** ADJ. artificial; sham. Hollywood actresses often create *factitious* tears by using glycerine.

**factotum** N. handyman; person who does all kinds of work. Although we had hired him as a messenger, we soon began to use him as a general *factotum* around the office.

**faculty** N. mental or bodily powers; teaching staff. As he grew old, Professor Twiggly feared he might lose his *faculties* and become unfit to teach. However, while he was in full possession of his *faculties*, the school couldn't kick him off the *faculty*.

## Test

### Word List 18      *Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

256. EUPHONIOUS (A) strident (B) lethargic (C) literary (D) significant (E) merry
257. EVASIVE (A) frank (B) correct (C) empty (D) fertile (E) watchful
258. EXASPERATE (A) confide (B) formalize (C) placate (D) betray (E) bargain
259. EXCORIATE (A) scandalize (B) encourage (C) avoid (D) praise (E) vanquish
260. EXCULPATE (A) blame (B) prevail (C) acquire (D) ravish (E) accumulate

261. EXECRABLE (A) innumerable (B) philosophic (C) physical (D) excellent (E) meditative
262. EXECRATE (A) disobey (B) enact (C) perform (D) acclaim (E) fidget
263. EXHUME (A) decipher (B) sadden (C) integrate (D) admit (E) inter
264. EXODUS (A) neglect (B) consent (C) entry (D) gain (E) rebuke
265. EXONERATE (A) forge (B) accuse (C) record (D) doctor (E) reimburse
266. EXORBITANT (A) moderate (B) partisan (C) military (D) barbaric (E) counterfeit
267. EXTEMPORANEOUS (A) rehearsed (B) hybrid (C) humiliating (D) statesmanlike (E) picturesque

268. EXTRANEIOUS (A) modern (B) decisive  
(C) essential (D) effective (E) expressive
269. EXTRINSIC (A) reputable (B) inherent (C) swift  
(D) ambitious (E) cursory

270. EXTROVERT (A) clown (B) hero (C) ectomorph  
(D) neurotic (E) introvert

## Word List 19 fallacious-flinch

- **fallacious** ADJ. false; misleading. Paradoxically, *fallacious* reasoning does not always yield erroneous results; even though your logic may be faulty, the answer you get may be correct. fallacy, N.
- fallible** ADJ. liable to err. I know I am *fallible*, but I feel confident that I am right this time.
- fallow** ADJ. plowed but not sowed; uncultivated. Farmers have learned that it is advisable to permit land to lie *fallow* every few years.
- falter** V. hesitate. When told to dive off the high board, she did not *falter*, but proceeded at once.
- fanaticism** N. excessive zeal; extreme devotion to a belief or cause. When Islamic fundamentalists demanded the death of Salman Rushdie because his novel questioned their faith, world opinion condemned them for their *fanaticism*. fanatic, ADJ., N.
- fancied** ADJ. imagined; unreal. You are resenting *fancied* insults. No one has ever said such things about you.
- fancier** N. breeder or dealer of animals. The dog *fancier* exhibited her prize collie at the annual Kennel Club show.
- fanciful** ADJ. whimsical; visionary. This is a *fanciful* scheme because it does not consider the facts.
- fanfare** N. call by bugles or trumpets; showy display. The exposition was opened with a *fanfare* of trumpets and the firing of cannon.
- farce** N. broad comedy; mockery. Nothing went right; the entire interview degenerated into a *farce*. farcical, ADJ.
- fastidious** ADJ. difficult to please; squeamish. Bobby was such a *fastidious* eater that he would eat a sandwich only if his mother first cut off every scrap of crust.
- fatalism** N. belief that events are determined by forces beyond one's control. With *fatalism*, he accepted the hardships that beset him. fatalistic, ADJ.
- fathom** V. comprehend; investigate. I find his motives impossible to *fathom*; in fact, I'm totally clueless about what goes on in his mind.
- **fatuous** ADJ. foolish; inane. She is far too intelligent to utter such *fatuous* remarks.
- fauna** N. animals of a period or region. The scientist could visualize the *fauna* of the period by examining the skeletal remains and the fossils.
- **fawning** ADJ. courting favor by cringing and flattering. She was constantly surrounded by a group of *fawning* admirers who hoped to win some favor. fawn, V.
- faze** V. disconcert; dismay. No crisis could *faze* the resourceful hotel manager.
- feasible** ADJ. practical. Is it *feasible* to build a new stadium for the Yankees on New York's West Side?

Without additional funding, the project is clearly unrealistic.

**febrile** ADJ. feverish. In his *febrile* condition, he was subject to nightmares and hallucinations.

**fecundity** N. fertility; fruitfulness. The *fecundity* of her mind is illustrated by the many vivid images in her poems.

**feign** V. pretend. Lady Macbeth *feigned* illness in the courtyard although she was actually healthy.

**faint** N. trick; shift; sham blow. The boxer was fooled by his opponent's *faint* and dropped his guard. also V.

■ **felicitous** ADJ. apt; suitably expressed; well chosen. He was famous for his *felicitous* remarks and was called upon to serve as master-of-ceremonies at many a banquet.

**felicity** N. happiness; appropriateness (of a remark, choice, etc.). She wrote a note to the newlyweds wishing them great *felicity* in their wedded life.

**fell** ADJ. cruel; deadly. The newspapers told of the tragic spread of the *fell* disease.

**fell** V. cut or knock down; bring down (with a missile). Crying "Timber!" Paul Bunyan *felled* the mighty redwood tree. Robin Hood loosed his arrow and *felled* the king's deer.

**felon** N. person convicted of a grave crime. A convicted *felon* loses the right to vote.

**feral** ADJ. not domestic; wild. Abandoned by their owners, dogs may revert to their *feral* state, roaming the woods in packs.

**ferment** N. agitation; commotion. With the breakup of the Soviet Union, much of Eastern Europe was in a state of *ferment*. also V.

**ferret** V. drive or hunt out of hiding. She *ferreted* out their secret.

**fervent** ADJ. ardent; hot. She felt that the *fervent* praise was excessive and somewhat undeserved.

**fervid** ADJ. ardent. Her *fervid* enthusiasm inspired all of us to undertake the dangerous mission.

■ **fervor** N. glowing ardor; intensity of feeling. At the protest rally, the students cheered the strikers and booed the dean with equal *fervor*.

**fester** V. rankle; produce irritation or resentment. Joe's insult *festered* in Anne's mind for days, and made her too angry to speak to him.

**festive** ADJ. joyous; celebratory. Their wedding in the park was a *festive* occasion.

**fete** V. honor at a festival. The returning hero was *feted* at a community supper and dance. also N.



**fetid** ADJ. malodorous. The neglected wound became *fetid*.

**fetter** V. shackle. The prisoner was *fettered* to the wall.

**fiasco** N. total failure. Our ambitious venture ended in a *fiasco* and we were forced to flee.

**fiat** N. command. I cannot accept government by *fiat*; I feel that the wishes of the citizens must be consulted.

**fickle** ADJ. changeable; faithless. As soon as Romeo saw Juliet, he forgot all about his old girlfriend Rosaline. Was Romeo *fickle*?

**fictitious** ADJ. imaginary. Although this book purports to be a biography of George Washington, many of the incidents are *fictitious*.

**fidelity** N. loyalty. A dog's *fidelity* to its owner is one of the reasons why that animal is a favorite household pet.

**figment** N. invention; imaginary thing. That incident never took place; it is a *figment* of your imagination.

**figurative** ADJ. not literal, but metaphorical; using a figure of speech. "To lose one's marbles" is a *figurative* expression; if you're told Jack has lost his marbles, no one expects you to rush out to buy him a replacement set.

**figurine** N. small ornamental statuette. In *The Maltese Falcon*, Sam Spade was hired to trace the missing *figurine* of a black bird.

**filch** V. steal. The boys *filched* apples from the fruit stand.

**filial** ADJ. pertaining to a son or daughter. Many children forget their *filial* obligations and disregard the wishes of their parents.

**filibuster** V. block legislation by making long speeches. Even though we disapproved of Senator Foghorn's political goals, we were impressed by his ability to *filibuster* endlessly to keep an issue from coming to a vote.

**filigree** N. delicate, lacelike metalwork. The pendant with gold *filigree* that she wore round her neck trembled with each breath she took.

**filig** N. particle removed by a file. As the prisoner *filed* away at the iron bar on the cell window, a small heap of *filings* accumulated on the window sill.

**finale** N. conclusion. It is not until we reach the *finale* of this play that we can understand the author's message.

**finesse** N. delicate skill. The *finesse* and adroitness of the surgeon impressed the observers in the operating room.

**finicky** ADJ. too particular; fussy. The little girl was *finicky* about her food, leaving anything that wasn't to her taste.

**finite** ADJ. limited. It is difficult for humanity with its *finite* existence to grasp the infinite.

**firebrand** N. hothead; troublemaker. The police tried to keep track of all the local *firebrands* when the president came to town.

**fissure** N. crevice. The mountain climbers secured footholds in tiny *fissures* in the rock.

**fitful** ADJ. spasmodic; intermittent. After several *fitful* attempts, he decided to postpone the start of the project until he felt more energetic.

**flaccid** ADJ. flabby. His sedentary life had left him with *flaccid* muscles.

■ **flag** V. droop; grow feeble. When the opposing hockey team scored its third goal only minutes into the first period, the home team's spirits *flagged*. *flagging*, ADJ.

**flagrant** ADJ. conspicuously wicked; blatant; outrageous. The governor's appointment of his brother-in-law to the state Supreme Court was a *flagrant* violation of the state laws against nepotism (favoritism based on kinship).

**flail** V. thresh grain by hand; strike or slap; toss about. In medieval times, warriors *flailed* their foe with a metal ball attached to a handle.

**flair** N. talent. She has an uncanny *flair* for discovering new artists before the public has become aware of their existence.

**flamboyant** ADJ. ornate. Modern architecture has discarded the *flamboyant* trimming on buildings and emphasizes simplicity of line.

**flaunt** V. display ostentatiously. Mae West saw nothing wrong with showing off her considerable physical charms, saying, "Honey, if you've got it, *flaunt* it!"

**flay** V. strip off skin; plunder. The criminal was condemned to be *flayed* alive.

**fleck** V. spot. Her cheeks, *flecked* with tears, were testimony to the hours of weeping.

■ **fledgling** ADJ. inexperienced. While it is necessary to provide these *fledgling* poets with an opportunity to present their work, it is not essential that we admire everything they write. also N.

**fleece** N. wool coat of a sheep. They shear sheep of their *fleece*, which they then comb into separate strands of wool.

**fleece** V. rob; plunder. The tricksters *fleeced* him of his inheritance.

**flick** N. light stroke as with a whip. The horse needed no encouragement; only one *flick* of the whip was all the jockey had to apply to get the animal to run at top speed.

**flinch** V. hesitate; shrink. She did not *flinch* in the face of danger but fought back bravely.

## Test

### Word List 19

### Synonyms and Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is

most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

271. FANCIFUL (A) imaginative (B) knowing (C) elaborate (D) quick (E) lusty
272. FATUOUS (A) fatal (B) natal (C) terrible (D) sensible (E) tolerable
273. FEASIBLE (A) theoretical (B) impatient (C) constant (D) present (E) impractical
274. FECUNDITY (A) prophecy (B) futility (C) fruitfulness (D) need (E) dormancy
275. FEIGN (A) deserve (B) condemn (C) condone (D) attend (E) pretend
276. FELL (A) propitious (B) illiterate (C) uppermost (D) futile (E) inherent
277. FERMENT (A) stir up (B) fill (C) ferret (D) mutilate (E) banish
278. FIASCO (A) cameo (B) mansion (C) pollution (D) success (E) gamble
279. FICKLE (A) fallacious (B) tolerant (C) loyal (D) hungry (E) stupid
280. FILCH (A) milk (B) purloin (C) itch (D) cancel (E) resent
281. FINITE (A) bounded (B) established (C) affirmative (D) massive (E) finicky
282. FLAIL (A) succeed (B) harvest (C) mend (D) strike (E) resent
283. FLAIR (A) conflagration (B) inspiration (C) bent (D) egregiousness (E) magnitude
284. FLAMBOYANT (A) old-fashioned (B) restrained (C) impulsive (D) cognizant (E) eloquent
285. FLEDGLING (A) weaving (B) bobbing (C) beginning (D) studying (E) flaying

## Word List 20 flippant-gaffe

**flippant** ADJ. lacking proper seriousness. When Mark told Mona he loved her, she dismissed his earnest declaration with a *flippant* "Oh, you say that to all the girls!"

**flippancy**, N.

**flit** V. fly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by. Like a bee *flitting* from flower to flower, Rose *flitted* from one boyfriend to the next.

**floe** N. mass of floating ice. The ship made slow progress as it battered its way through the ice *floes*.

**flora** N. plants of a region or era. Because she was a botanist, she spent most of her time studying the *flora* of the desert.

**florid** ADJ. ruddy; reddish; flowery. If you go to Florida and get a sunburn, your complexion will look *florid*. If your postcards about your trip praise it in flowery words, your prose will be *florid*, too.

**flotsam** N. drifting wreckage. Beachcombers eke out a living by salvaging the *flotsam* and jetsam of the sea.

**flounder** V. struggle and thrash about; proceed clumsily or falter. Up to his knees in the bog, Floyd *floundered* about, trying to regain his footing. Bewildered by the new software, Flo *floundered* until Jan showed her how to get started.

**flourish** V. grow well; prosper; make sweeping gestures. The orange trees *flourished* in the sun.

■ **flout** V. reject; mock. The headstrong youth *flouted* all authority; he refused to be curbed.

**fluctuate** V. waver; shift. The water pressure in our shower *fluctuates* wildly; you start rinsing yourself off with a trickle, and two minutes later a blast of water nearly knocks you off your feet. I'll never get used to these *fluctuations*.

**fluency** N. smoothness of speech. She spoke French with *fluency* and ease.

**fluke** N. unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune. When Douglas *defeated* Tyson for the heavyweight championship, some sportscasters dismissed his victory as a *fluke*.

**fluster** V. confuse. The teacher's sudden question *flustered* him and he stammered his reply.

**fluted** ADJ. having vertical parallel grooves (as in a pillar). All that remained of the ancient building were the *fluted* columns.

**flux** N. flowing; series of changes. While conditions are in such a state of *flux*, I do not wish to commit myself too deeply in this affair.

**fodder** N. coarse food for cattle, horses, etc. One of Nancy's chores at the ranch was to put fresh supplies of *fodder* in the horses' stalls.

**foible** N. weakness; slight fault. We can overlook the *foibles* of our friends; no one is perfect.

**foil** N. contrast. In *Star Wars*, dark, evil Darth Vader is a perfect *foil* for fair-haired, naive Luke Skywalker.

**foil** V. defeat; frustrate. In the end, Skywalker is able to *foil* Vader's diabolical schemes.

**foist** V. insert improperly; palm off. I will not permit you to *foist* such ridiculous ideas upon the membership of this group.

**foliage** N. masses of leaves. Every autumn before the leaves fell he promised himself he would drive through New England to admire the colorful fall *foliage*.

■ **foment** V. stir up; instigate. Cher's archenemy Heather spread some nasty rumors that *fomented* trouble in the club. Do you think Cher's foe meant to *foment* such discord?

**foolhardy** ADJ. rash. Don't be *foolhardy*. Get the advice of experienced people before undertaking this venture.

**foppish** ADJ. vain about dress and appearance. He tried to imitate the *foppish* manner of the young men of the court.

**foray** N. raid. The company staged a midnight *foray* against the enemy outpost.

**forbearance** *n.* patience. We must use *forbearance* in dealing with him because he is still weak from his illness.

**ford** *n.* place where a river can be crossed on foot. Rather than risk using the shaky rope bridge, David walked a half-mile downstream until he came to the nearest *ford*. also *v.*

**forebears** *n.* ancestors. Reverence for one's *forebears* (sometimes referred to as ancestor worship) plays an important part in many Oriental cultures.

**foreboding** *n.* premonition of evil. Suspecting no conspiracies against him, Caesar gently ridiculed his wife's *forebodings* about the Ides of March.

**forensic** *adj.* suitable to debate or courts of law. In her best *forensic* manner, the lawyer addressed the jury.

**foreshadow** *v.* give an indication beforehand; portend; prefigure. In retrospect, political analysts realized that Yeltsin's defiance of the attempted coup *foreshadowed* his emergence as the dominant figure of the new Russian republic.

**foresight** *n.* ability to foresee future happenings; prudence. A wise investor, she had the *foresight* to buy land just before the current real estate boom.

■ **forestall** *v.* prevent by taking action in advance. By settling up a prenuptial agreement, the prospective bride and groom hoped to *forestall* any potential arguments about money in the event of a divorce.

**forgo** *v.* give up; do without. Determined to lose weight for the summer, Ida decided to *forgo* dessert until she could fit into a size eight again.

**forlorn** *adj.* sad and lonely; wretched. Deserted by her big sisters and her friends, the *forlorn* child sat sadly on the steps awaiting their return.

**formality** *n.* ceremonious quality; something done just for form's sake. The president received the visiting heads of state with due *formality*: flags waving, honor guards standing at attention, bands playing anthems at full blast. Signing this petition is a mere *formality*; it does not obligate you in any way.

**formidable** *adj.* menacing; threatening. We must not treat the battle lightly for we are facing a *formidable* foe.

**forsake** *v.* desert; abandon; renounce. No one expected Foster to *forsake* his wife and children and run off with another woman.

**forswear** *v.* renounce; abandon. The captured knight could escape death only if he agreed to *forswear* Christianity and embrace Islam as the one true faith.

**forte** *n.* strong point or special talent. I am not eager to play this rather serious role, for my *forte* is comedy.

**forthright** *adj.* straightforward; direct; frank. I prefer Jill's *forthright* approach to Jack's tendency to beat around the bush.

**fortitude** *n.* bravery; courage. He was awarded the medal for his *fortitude* in the battle.

**fortuitous** *adj.* accidental; by chance. Though he pretended their encounter was *fortuitous*, he'd actually been

hanging around her usual haunts for the past two weeks, hoping she'd turn up.

**foster** *v.* rear; encourage. According to the legend, Romulus and Remus were *fostered* by a she-wolf that raised the abandoned infants as her own. also *adj.*

**founder** *v.* fail completely; sink. After hitting the submerged iceberg, the *Titanic* started taking in water rapidly and soon *foundered*.

**founder** *n.* person who establishes (an organization, business). Among those drowned when the *Titanic* sank was the *founder* of the Abraham & Straus chain.

**fracas** *n.* brawl, melee. The military police stopped the *fracas* in the bar and arrested the belligerents.

**fractious** *adj.* unruly. The *fractious* horse unseated its rider.

**frail** *adj.* weak. The delicate child seemed too *frail* to lift the heavy carton. *frailty*, *n.*

**franchise** *n.* right granted by authority; right to vote; license to sell a product in a particular territory. The city issued a *franchise* to the company to operate surface transit lines on the streets for 99 years. For most of American history women lacked the right to vote; not until the early twentieth century was the *franchise* granted to women. Stan owns a Carvel's ice cream *franchise* in Chinatown.

**frantic** *adj.* wild. At the time of the collision, many people became *frantic* with fear.

**fraudulent** *adj.* cheating; deceitful. The government seeks to prevent *fraudulent* and misleading advertising.

**fraught** *adj.* filled. Since this enterprise is *fraught* with danger, I will ask for volunteers who are willing to assume the risks.

**fray** *n.* brawl. The three musketeers were in the thick of the *fray*.

**frenetic** *adj.* frenzied; frantic. His *frenetic* activities convinced us that he had no organized plan of operation.

**frenzied** *adj.* madly excited. As soon as they smelled smoke, the *frenzied* animals milled about in their cages.

**fresco** *n.* painting on plaster (usually fresh). The cathedral is visited by many tourists who wish to admire the *frescoes* by Giotto.

**fret** *v.* be annoyed or vexed. To *fret* over your poor grades is foolish; instead, decide to work harder in the future.

**friction** *n.* clash in opinion; rubbing against. At this time when harmony is essential, we cannot afford to have any *friction* in our group.

**frieze** *n.* ornamental band on a wall. The *frieze* of the church was adorned with sculpture.

**frigid** *adj.* intensely cold. Alaska is in the *frigid* zone.

**fritter** *v.* waste. He could not apply himself to any task and *frittered* away his time in idle conversation.

**frivolous** *adj.* lacking in seriousness; self-indulgently carefree; relatively unimportant. Though Nancy enjoyed Bill's *frivolous*, lighthearted companionship, she sometimes wondered whether he could ever be serious. *frivolity*, *n.*

**frolicsome** ADJ. prankish; gay. The *frolicsome* puppy tried to lick the face of its master.

**frond** N. fern leaf; palm or banana leaf. After the storm the beach was littered with the *fronds* of palm trees.

**fructify** V. bear fruit. This peach tree should *fructify* in three years.

■ **frugality** N. thrift; economy. In these economically difficult days businesses must practice *frugality* or risk bankruptcy. **frugal**, ADJ.

**fruition** N. bearing of fruit; fulfillment; realization. This building marks the *fruition* of all our aspirations and years of hard work.

**frustrate** V. thwart; defeat. We must *frustrate* this dictator's plan to seize control of the government.

**fugitive** ADJ. fleeting or transitory; roving. The film brought a few *fugitive* images to her mind; but on the whole it made no lasting impression upon her.

**fulcrum** N. support on which a lever rests. If we use this stone as a *fulcrum* and the crowbar as a lever, we may be able to move this boulder.

**fulminate** V. thunder; explode. The people against whom she *fulminated* were innocent of any wrongdoing.

**fulsome** ADJ. disgustingly excessive. His *fulsome* praise of the dictator annoyed his listeners.

**functionary** N. official. As his case was transferred from one *functionary* to another, he began to despair of ever reaching a settlement.

**fundamental** V. basic; primary; essential. The committee discussed all sorts of side issues without ever getting down to addressing the *fundamental* problem.

**funereal** ADJ. sad; solemn. I fail to understand why there is such a *funereal* atmosphere; we have lost a battle, not a war.

**furor** N. frenzy; great excitement. The story of her embezzlement of the funds created a *furor* on the stock exchange.

**furtive** ADJ. stealthy; sneaky. Noticing the *furtive* glance the customer gave the diamond bracelet on the counter, the jeweler wondered whether he had a potential shoplifter on his hands.

**fusillade** N. simultaneous firing or outburst (of missiles, questions, etc.). Tchaikovsky's 1812 *Overture* concludes with a thunderous *fusillade* of cannon fire.

**fusion** N. union; coalition. The opponents of the political party in power organized a *fusion* of disgruntled groups and became an important element in the election.

■ **futile** ADJ. useless; hopeless; ineffectual. It is *futile* for me to try to get any work done around here while the telephone is ringing every 30 seconds. **futility**, N.

**gadfly** N. animal-biting fly; an irritating person. Like a *gadfly*, he irritated all the guests at the hotel; within forty-eight hours, everyone regarded him as an annoying busybody.

**gaffe** N. social blunder. According to Miss Manners, to call your husband by your lover's name is worse than a mere *gaffe*; it is a tactical mistake.

## Test

### Word List 20      Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

286. FLORID (A) ruddy (B) rusty (C) ruined (D) patient (E) poetic
287. FOIL (A) bury (B) frustrate (C) shield (D) desire (E) gain
288. FOMENT (A) spoil (B) instigate (C) interrogate (D) spray (E) maintain
289. FOOLHARDY (A) strong (B) unwise (C) brave (D) futile (E) erudite
290. FOPPISH (A) scanty (B) radical (C) orthodox (D) dandyish (E) magnificent
291. FORAY (A) excursion (B) contest (C) ranger (D) intuition (E) fish
292. FORMIDABLE (A) dangerous (B) outlandish (C) grandiloquent (D) impenetrable (E) venerable
293. FOSTER (A) accelerate (B) fondle (C) become infected (D) raise (E) roll
294. FRANCHISE (A) subway (B) discount (C) license (D) reason (E) fashion
295. FRITTER (A) sour (B) chafe (C) dissipate (D) cancel (E) abuse
296. FRUGALITY (A) foolishness (B) extremity (C) indifference (D) enthusiasm (E) economy
297. FULMINATE (A) fulfill (B) contemplate (C) talk nonsense (D) protest loudly (E) meander
298. FUROR (A) excitement (B) worry (C) flux (D) anteroom (E) lover
299. FURTIVE (A) underhanded (B) coy (C) brilliant (D) quick (E) abortive
300. GADFLY (A) humorist (B) nuisance (C) scholar (D) bum (E) thief

## Word List 21 gainsay-gossamer

■ **gainsay** v. deny. She was too honest to *gainsay* the truth of the report.

**gait** n. manner of walking or running; speed. The lame man walked with an uneven *gait*.

**galaxy** n. large, isolated system of stars, such as the Milky Way; a collection of brilliant personalities. Science fiction speculates about the possible existence of life in other *galaxies*. The deaths of such famous actors as John Candy and George Burns tells us that the *galaxy* of Hollywood superstars is rapidly disappearing.

**gale** n. windstorm; gust of wind; emotional outburst (laughter, tears). The Weather Channel warned viewers about a rising *gale*, with winds of up to 60 miles per hour.

**gall** n. bitterness; nerve. The knowledge of his failure filled him with *gall*.

**gall** v. annoy; chafe. Their taunts *galled* him.

**galleon** n. large sailing ship. The Spaniards pinned their hopes on the *galleon*, the large warship; the British, on the smaller and faster *pinnace*.

**galvanize** v. stimulate by shock; stir up; revitalize. News that the prince was almost at their door *galvanized* the ugly stepsisters into a frenzy of combing and primping.

**gambit** n. opening in chess in which a piece is sacrificed. The player was afraid to accept his opponent's *gambit* because he feared a trap that as yet he could not see.

**gambol** v. romp; skip about; leap playfully. Watching the children *gambol* in the park, Betty marveled at their youthful energy and zest. also n.

**gamely** adv. in a spirited manner; with courage. Because he had fought *gamely* against a much superior boxer, the crowd gave him a standing ovation when he left the arena.

**gamut** n. entire range. In this performance, the leading lady was able to demonstrate the complete *gamut* of her acting ability.

**gape** v. open widely. The huge pit *gaped* before him; if he stumbled, he would fall in. Slack-jawed in wonder, Huck *gaped* at the huge stalactites hanging from the ceiling of the limestone cavern.

**garbled** adj. mixed up; jumbled; distorted. A favorite party game involves passing a whispered message from one person to another; by the time it reaches the last player, the message has become totally *garbled*. *garble*, v.

**gargantuan** adj. huge; enormous. The *gargantuan* wrestler was terrified of mice.

**gargoyle** n. waterspout carved in grotesque figures on a building. The *gargoyles* adorning the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris are amusing in their grotesqueness.

**garish** adj. overbright in color; gaudy. She wore a rhinestone necklace with a *garish* red and gold dress trimmed with sequins.

**gamer** v. gather; store up. She hoped to *game* the world's literature in one library.

**garnish** v. decorate. Parsley was used to *garnish* the boiled potato. also n.

■ **garrulous** adj. loquacious; wordy; talkative. My Uncle Henry can out-talk any other three people I know. He is the most *garrulous* person in Cayuga County. *garrulity*, n. ←

**gastronomy** n. science of preparing and serving good food. One of the by-products of his trip to Europe was his interest in *gastronomy*; he enjoyed preparing and serving foreign dishes to his friends.

**gauche** adj. clumsy; coarse and uncouth. Compared to the sophisticated young ladies in their elegant gowns, tomboyish Jo felt *gauche* and out of place.

**gaudy** adj. flashy; showy. The newest Trump skyscraper is typically *gaudy*, covered in gilded panels that gleam in the sun.

**gaunt** adj. lean and angular; barren. His once-round face looked surprisingly *gaunt* after he had lost weight.

**gavel** n. hammerlike tool; mallet. "Sold!" cried the auctioneer, banging her *gavel* on the table to indicate she'd accepted the final bid. also v.

**gawk** v. stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed awe. The country boy *gawked* at the skyscrapers and neon lights of the big city.

**gazette** n. official periodical publication. He read the *gazettes* regularly for the announcement of his promotion.

**genealogy** n. record of descent; lineage. He was proud of his *genealogy* and constantly referred to the achievements of his ancestors.

**generality** n. vague statement. This report is filled with *generalities*; you must be more specific in your statements.

**generate** v. cause; produce; create. In his first days in office, President Clinton managed to *generate* a new mood of optimism; we hoped he could also *generate* a few new jobs.

**generic** adj. characteristic of an entire class or species. Sue knew so many computer programmers who spent their spare time playing fantasy games that she began to think that playing Dungeons & Dragons was a *generic* trait.

**genesis** n. beginning; origin. Tracing the *genesis* of a family is the theme of "Roots."

**geniality** n. cheerfulness; kindness; sympathy. This restaurant is famous and popular because of the *geniality* of the proprietor, who tries to make everyone happy. *genial*, adj.

**genre** n. particular variety of art or literature. Both a short story writer and a poet, Langston Hughes proved himself equally skilled in either *genre*.

**genteel** adj. well-bred; elegant. We are looking for a man with a *genteel* appearance who can inspire confidence by his cultivated manner.

**gentility** n. those of gentle birth; refinement. Her family was proud of its *gentility* and elegance.

**gentry** *N.* people of standing; class of people just below nobility. The local *gentry* did not welcome the visits of the summer tourists and tried to ignore their presence in the community.

**genuflect** *v.* bend the knee as in worship. A proud democrat, he refused to *genuflect* to any man.

**germane** *ADJ.* pertinent; bearing upon the case at hand. The lawyer objected that the testimony being offered was not *germane* to the case at hand.

**germinal** *ADJ.* pertaining to a germ; creative. Such an idea is *germinal*; I am certain that it will influence thinkers and philosophers for many generations.

**germinate** *v.* cause to sprout; sprout. After the seeds *germinate* and develop their permanent leaves, the plants may be removed from the cold frames and transplanted to the garden.

**gerontocracy** *N.* government ruled by old people. Gulliver visited a *gerontocracy* in which the young people acted as servants to their elders, all the while dreaming of the day they would be old enough to have servants of their own.

**gerrymander** *v.* change voting district lines in order to favor a political party. The illogical pattern of the map of this congressional district is proof that the state legislature *gerrymandered* this area in order to favor the majority party. also *N.*

**gestate** *v.* evolve, as in prenatal growth. While this scheme was being *gestated* by the conspirators, they maintained complete silence about their intentions.

**gesticulation** *N.* motion; gesture. Operatic performers are trained to make exaggerated *gesticulations* because of the large auditoriums in which they appear.

**ghastly** *ADJ.* horrible. The murdered man was a *ghastly* sight.

**gibberish** *N.* nonsense; babbling. Did you hear that foolish boy spouting *gibberish* about monsters from outer space?

**gibe** *v.* mock. As you *gibe* at their superstitious beliefs, do you realize that you, too, are guilty of similarly foolish thoughts?

**giddy** *ADJ.* light-hearted; dizzy. He felt his *giddy* youth was past.

**gingerly** *ADV.* very carefully. To separate egg whites, first crack the egg *gingerly*. also *ADJ.*

**girth** *N.* distance around something; circumference. It took an extra-large cummerbund to fit around Andrew Carnegie's considerable *girth*.

**gist** *N.* essence. She was asked to give the *gist* of the essay in two sentences.

**glacial** *ADJ.* like a glacier; extremely cold. Never a warm person, when offended Hugo could seem positively *glacial*.

**glaring** *ADJ.* highly conspicuous; harshly bright. *Glaring* spelling or grammatical errors in your résumé will unfavorably impress potential employers.

**glaze** *v.* cover with a thin and shiny surface. The freezing rain *glazed* the streets and made driving hazardous. also *N.*

**glean** *v.* gather leavings. After the crops had been harvested by the machines, the peasants were permitted to *glean* the wheat left in the fields.

**glib** *ADJ.* fluent; facile; slick. Keeping up a steady patter to entertain his customers, the kitchen gadget salesman was a *glib* speaker, never at a loss for a word.

**glimmer** *v.* shine erratically; twinkle. In the darkness of the cavern, the glowworms hanging from the cavern roof *glimmered* like distant stars.

**gloat** *v.* express evil satisfaction; view malevolently. As you *gloat* over your ill-gotten wealth, do you think of the many victims you have defrauded?

**glass over** *v.* explain away. No matter how hard he tried to talk around the issue, President Bush could not *glass over* the fact that he had raised taxes after all.

**glossary** *N.* brief explanation of words used in the text. I have found the *glossary* in this book very useful; it has eliminated many trips to the dictionary.

**glossy** *ADJ.* smooth and shining. I want this photograph printed on *glossy* paper, not matte.

**glower** *v.* scowl. The angry boy *glowered* at his father.

**glut** *v.* overstock; fill to excess. The many manufacturers *glutted* the market and could not find purchasers for the many articles they had produced. also *N.*

**glutinous** *ADJ.* sticky; viscous. Molasses is a *glutinous* substance.

**glutton** *N.* someone who eats too much. When Mother saw that Bobby had eaten all the cookies, she called him a little *glutton*. *gluttonous*, *ADJ.*

**gnarled** *ADJ.* twisted. The *gnarled* oak tree had been a landmark for years and was mentioned in several deeds.

**gnome** *N.* dwarf; underground spirit. In medieval mythology, *gnomes* were the special guardians and inhabitants of subterranean mines.

**goad** *v.* urge on. She was *goaded* by her friends until she yielded to their wishes. also *N.*

**gorge** *N.* narrow canyon; steep, rocky cleft. Terrified of heights, George could not bring himself to peer down into the *gorge* to see the rapids below.

**gorge** *v.* stuff oneself. The gluttonous guest *gorged* himself with food as though he had not eaten for days.

**gory** *ADJ.* bloody. The audience shuddered as they listened to the details of the *gory* massacre. *gore*, *N.*

**gossamer** *ADJ.* sheer; like cobwebs. Nylon can be woven into *gossamer* or thick fabrics. also *N.*



## Test

Word List 21      *Synonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

301. GALLEON (A) liquid measure (B) ship (C) armada (D) company (E) printer's proof
302. GARISH (A) sordid (B) flashy (C) prominent (D) lusty (E) thoughtful
303. GARNER (A) prevent (B) assist (C) collect (D) compute (E) consult
304. GARNISH (A) paint (B) garner (C) adorn (D) abuse (E) banish
305. GARRULITY (A) credulity (B) senility (C) loquaciousness (D) speciousness (E) artistry
306. GARRULOUS (A) erid (B) hasty (C) sociable (D) quaint (E) talkative
307. GAUCHE (A) rigid (B) swift (C) awkward (D) taciturn (E) needy
308. GAUDY (A) holy (B) showy (C) sentimental (D) mild (E) whimsical
309. GAUNT (A) victorious (B) tiny (C) stylish (D) haggard (E) nervous
310. GENUFLECT (A) falsify (B) trick (C) project (D) bend the knee (E) pronounce correctly
311. GERMANE (A) bacteriological (B) Middle European (C) prominent (D) warlike (E) relevant
312. GERMINAL (A) creative (B) excused (C) sterilized (D) primitive (E) strategic
313. GIST (A) chaff (B) summary (C) expostulation (D) expiation (E) chore
314. GLIB (A) slippery (B) fashionable (C) antiquated (D) ericulate (E) anticlimactic
315. GNOME (A) fury (B) giant (C) dwarf (D) native (E) alien

Word List 22      *gouge-hiatus*

**gouge** v. tear out. In that fight, all the rules were forgotten; the adversaries bit, kicked, and tried to *gouge* each other's eyes out.

■ **gouge** v. overcharge. During the World Series, ticket scalpers tried to *gouge* the public, asking astronomical prices even for bleacher seats.

**gourmand** n. epicure; person who takes excessive pleasure in food and drink. *Gourmands* lack self-restraint; if they enjoy a particular cuisine, they eat far too much of it.

**gourmet** n. connoisseur of food and drink. The *gourmet* stated that this was the best onion soup she had ever tasted.

**graduated** ADJ. arranged by degrees (of height, difficulty, etc.). Margaret loved her *graduated* set of Russian hollow wooden dolls; she spent hours happily putting the smaller dolls into their larger counterparts.

**granary** n. storehouse for grain. We have reason to be thankful, for our crops were good and our *granaries* are full.

**grandeur** n. impressiveness; stateliness; majesty. No matter how often he hiked through the mountains, David never failed to be struck by the *grandeur* of the Sierra Nevada range.

■ **grandiloquent** ADJ. pompous; bombastic; using high-sounding language. The politician could never speak simply; she was always *grandiloquent*.

**grandiose** ADJ. pretentious; high-flown; ridiculously exaggerated; impressive. The aged matinee idol still had

*grandiose* notions of his supposed importance in the theatrical world.

**granulate** v. form into grains. Sugar that has been *granulated* dissolves more readily than lump sugar. **granule**, n.

**graphic** ADJ. pertaining to the art of delineating; vividly described. I was particularly impressed by the *graphic* presentation of the storm.

**grapple** v. wrestle; come to grips with. He *grappled* with the burglar and overpowered him.

**grate** v. make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; shred. The screams of the quarreling children *grated* on her nerves.

**gratify** v. please. Lori's parents were *gratified* by her successful performance on the GRE.

**gratis** ADV. free. The company offered to give one package *gratis* to every purchaser of one of their products. also ADJ.

**gratuitous** ADJ. given freely; unwarranted; uncalled for. Quit making *gratuitous* comments about my driving; no one asked you for your opinion.

**gratuity** n. tip. Many service employees rely more on *gratuities* than on salaries for their livelihood.

**gravity** n. seriousness. We could tell we were in serious trouble from the *gravity* of her expression. **grave**, ADJ.

■ **gregarious** ADJ. sociable. Typically, party-throwers are *gregarious*; hermits are not.

**grievance** *N.* cause of complaint. When her supervisor ignored her complaint, she took her *grievance* to the union.

**grill** *V.* question severely. In violation of the Miranda law, the police *grilled* the suspect for several hours before reading him his rights. (secondary meaning)

**grimace** *N.* a facial distortion to show feeling such as pain, disgust, etc. Even though he remained silent, his *grimace* indicated his displeasure. also *V.*

**grisly** *ADJ.* ghastly. She shuddered at the *grisly* sight.

**grotesque** *ADJ.* fantastic; comically hideous. On Halloween people enjoy wearing *grotesque* costumes.

**grotto** *N.* small cavern. The Blue Grotto in Capri can be entered only by small boats rowed by natives through a natural opening in the rocks.

**grouse** *V.* complain; fuss. Students traditionally *grouse* about the abysmal quality of "mystery meat" and similar dormitory food.

**grovel** *V.* crawl or creep on ground; remain prostrate. Even though we have been defeated, we do not have to *grovel* before our conquerors.

**grudging** *ADJ.* unwilling; reluctant; stingy. We received only *grudging* support from the mayor despite his earlier promises of aid.

**gruel** *N.* thin, liquid porridge. Our daily allotment of *gruel* made the meal not only monotonous but also unpalatable.

**grueling** *ADJ.* exhausting. The marathon is a *grueling* race.

**gruesome** *ADJ.* grisly; horrible. His face was the stuff of nightmares: all the children in the audience screamed when Freddy Kruger's *gruesome* countenance was flashed on the screen.

**gruff** *ADJ.* rough-mannered. Although he was blunt and *gruff* with most people, he was always gentle with children.

**guffaw** *N.* bolsterous laughter. The loud *guffaws* that came from the closed room indicated that the members of the committee had not yet settled down to serious business. also *V.*

**guile** *N.* deceit; duplicity; williness; cunning. Iago uses considerable *guile* to trick Othello into believing that Desdemona has been unfaithful.

■ **guileless** *ADJ.* without deceit. He is naive, simple, and *guileless*; he cannot be guilty of fraud.

**guise** *N.* appearance; costume. In the *guise* of a plumber, the detective investigated the murder case.

**gull** *V.* trick; hoodwink. Confident no one could *gull* him, Paul prided himself on his skeptical disposition.

■ **gullible** *ADJ.* easily deceived. *Gullible* people have only themselves to blame if they fall for con artists repeatedly. As the saying goes, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

**gustatory** *ADJ.* affecting the sense of taste. The Thai restaurant offered an unusual *gustatory* experience for those used to a bland cuisine.

**gusto** *N.* enjoyment; enthusiasm. He accepted the assignment with such *gusto* that I feel he would have been satisfied with a smaller salary.

**gusty** *ADJ.* windy. The *gusty* weather made sailing precarious.

**guy** *N.* cable or chain attached to something that needs to be braced or steadied. If the *guys* holding up the mast on that derrick snap, the mast will topple.

**gyroscope** *N.* apparatus used to maintain balance, ascertain direction, etc. By using a rotating *gyroscope*, they were able to stabilize the vessel, counteracting the rolling movements of the sea.

**habituate** *V.* accustom or familiarize; addict. Macbeth gradually *habituated* himself to murder, shedding his scruples as he grew accustomed to his bloody deeds.

**hackles** *N.* hairs on back and neck, especially of a dog. The dog's *hackles* rose and he began to growl as the sound of footsteps grew louder.

**hackneyed** *ADJ.* commonplace; trite. When the reviewer criticized the movie for its *hackneyed* plot, we agreed; we had seen similar stories hundreds of times before.

**haggard** *ADJ.* wasted away; gaunt. After his long illness, he was pale and *haggard*.

**haggle** *V.* argue about prices. I prefer to shop in a store that has a one-price policy because, whenever I *haggle* with a shopkeeper, I am never certain that I paid a fair price for the articles I purchased.

**halcyon** *ADJ.* calm; peaceful. In those *halcyon* days, people were not worried about sneak attacks and bombings.

**hale** *ADJ.* healthy. After a brief illness, he was soon *hale*.

**hallowed** *ADJ.* blessed; consecrated. Although the dead girl's parents had never been active churchgoers, they insisted that their daughter be buried in *hallowed* ground.

**hallucination** *N.* delusion. I think you were frightened by a *hallucination* that you created in your own mind.

**halting** *ADJ.* hesitant; faltering. Novice extemporaneous speakers often talk in a *halting* fashion as they grope for the right words.

**hamper** *V.* obstruct. The new mother hadn't realized how much the effort of caring for an infant would *hamper* her ability to keep an immaculate house.

**hap** *N.* chance; luck. In his poem *Hap*, Thomas Hardy objects to the part chance plays in our lives. also *V.*

**haphazard** *ADJ.* random; by chance. His *haphazard* reading left him unacquainted with many classic books.

**hapless** *ADJ.* unfortunate. This *hapless* creature had never known a moment's pleasure.

■ **harangue** *N.* long, passionate, and vehement speech. In her lengthy *harangue*, the principal berated the offenders. also *V.*

**harass** *V.* annoy by repeated attacks. When he could not pay his bills as quickly as he had promised, he was *harassed* by his creditors.

**harbinger** *N.* forerunner. The crocus is an early *harbinger* of spring.

**harbor** v. provide a refuge for; hide. The church *harbored* illegal aliens who were political refugees. also n.  
**hardy** ADJ. sturdy; robust; able to stand inclement weather. We asked the gardening expert to recommend particularly *hardy* plants that could withstand our harsh New England winters.

**harping** n. tiresome dwelling on a subject. After he had reminded me several times about what he had done for me I told him to stop his *harping* on my indebtedness to him. *harp*, v.

**harrowing** ADJ. agonizing; distressing; traumatic. At first Terry Anderson did not wish to discuss his *harrowing* months of captivity as a political hostage. *harrow*, v.

**harry** v. harass, annoy, torment; raid. The guerrilla band *harried* the enemy nightly.

**hatch** n. deck opening; lid covering a deck opening. The latch on the *hatch* failed to catch, so the *hatch* remained unlatched.

**haughtiness** n. pride; arrogance. When she realized that Percy believed himself too good to dance with his inferiors, Elizabeth took great offense at his *haughtiness*.

**haven** n. place of safety; refuge. For Ricardo, the school library became his *haven*, a place to which he could retreat during chaotic times.

**hazardous** ADJ. dangerous. Your occupation is too *hazardous* for insurance companies to consider your application.

**hazy** ADJ. slightly obscure. In *hazy* weather, you cannot see the top of this mountain.

**headlong** ADJ. hasty; rash. The slave seized the unexpected chance to make a *headlong* dash across the border to freedom.

**headstrong** ADJ. stubborn; willful; unyielding. Because she refused to marry the man her parents had chosen for her, everyone scolded Minna and called her a foolish, *headstrong* girl.

**heckler** n. person who verbally harasses others. The *heckler* kept interrupting the speaker with rude remarks. *heckle*, v.

**hedonist** n. one who believes that pleasure is the sole aim in life. A thoroughgoing *hedonist*, he considered only his own pleasure and ignored any claims others had on his money or time. *hedonism*, n.

**heedless** ADJ. not noticing; disregarding. She drove on, *heedless* of the warnings that the road was dangerous. *heed*, v.

**hegemony** n. dominance, especially of one nation over others. As one Eastern European nation after another declared its independence, commentators marveled at the sudden breakdown of the once monolithic Soviet *hegemony*.

**heinous** ADJ. atrocious; hatefully bad. Hitler's *heinous* crimes will never be forgotten.

**herbivorous** ADJ. grain-eating. Some *herbivorous* animals have two stomachs for digesting their food.

**heresy** n. opinion contrary to popular belief; opinion contrary to accepted religion. Galileo's assertion that the earth moved around the sun directly contradicted the religious teachings of his day; as a result, he was tried for *heresy*. *heretic*, n. *heretical*, ADJ.

**hermetic** ADJ. sealed by fusion so as to be airtight. After you sterilize the bandages, place them in a container and seal it with a *hermetic* seal to protect them from contamination by airborne bacteria.

**hermetic** ADJ. obscure and mysterious; occult. It is strange to consider that modern chemistry originated in the *hermetic* teachings of the ancient elchemists. (secondary meaning)

**hermitage** n. home of a hermit. Even in his remote *hermitage* he could not escape completely from the world.

**herpetologist** n. one who studies reptiles. As a boy, Indiana Jones had a traumatic experience involving snakes; sensibly enough, he studied to be an archaeologist, not a *herpetologist*.

**heterodox** ADJ. unorthodox; unconventional. To those who upheld the belief that the earth did not move, Galileo's theory that the earth circled the sun was disturbingly *heterodox*.

**heterogeneous** ADJ. dissimilar; mixed. This year's entering class is a remarkably *heterogeneous* body: It includes students from 40 different states and 26 foreign countries, some the children of billionaires, others the offspring of welfare families. *heterogeneity*, n.

**hew** v. cut to pieces with ax or sword. The cavalry rushed into the melee and *hewed* the enemy with their swords, n.

**heyday** n. time of greatest success; prime. In their *heyday*, the San Francisco Forty-Niners won the Super Bowl two years running.

**hiatus** n. gap; pause. Except for a brief two-year *hiatus*, during which she enrolled in the Peace Corps, Ms. Clements has devoted herself to her medical career.

## Test

### Word List 22     *Antonyms*

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

316. GRANDIOSE (A) false (B) ideal (C) proud  
 (D) simple (E) functional
317. GRATUITOUS (A) warranted (B) frank  
 (C) ingenuous (D) frugal (E) pithy

318. GREGARIOUS (A) antisocial (B) anticipatory (C) glorious (D) horrendous (E) similar
319. GRISLY (A) suggestive (B) doubtful (C) untidy (D) pleasant (E) bearish
320. GULLIBLE (A) incredulous (B) fickle (C) tantamount (D) easy (E) stylish
321. GUSTO (A) noise (B) panic (C) atmosphere (D) gloom (E) distaste
322. GUSTY (A) calm (B) noisy (C) fragrant (D) routine (E) gloomy
323. HACKNEYED (A) carried (B) original (C) banned (D) timely (E) oratorical
324. HAGGARD (A) shrewish (B) inspired (C) plump (D) maidenly (E) vast
325. HALCYON (A) wasteful (B) prior (C) subsequent (D) puerile (E) martial
326. HAPHAZARD (A) safe (B) indifferent (C) deliberate (D) tense (E) conspiring
327. HAPLESS (A) cheerful (B) consistent (C) fortunate (D) considerate (E) shapely
328. HEED (A) ignore (B) hope (C) overtake (D) nurture (E) depart
329. HERETIC (A) sophist (B) believer (C) interpreter (D) pacifist (E) owner
330. HETEROGENEOUS (A) orthodox (B) pagan (C) unlikely (D) similar (E) banished

## Word List 23      hibernal-imbue

**hibernal** ADJ. wintry. Bears prepare for their long *hibernal* sleep by overeating.

**hibernate** V. sleep throughout the winter. Bears are one of the many species of animals that *hibernate*. hibernation, N.

**hierarchy** N. arrangement by rank or standing; authoritarian body divided into ranks. To be low man on the totem pole is to have an inferior place in the *hierarchy*. hierarchical, ADJ.

**hieroglyphic** N. picture writing. The discovery of the Rosetta Stone enabled scholars to read the ancient Egyptian *hieroglyphics*.

**hilarity** N. bolsterous mirth. This *hilarity* is improper on this solemn day of mourning. hilarious, ADJ.

**hindmost** ADJ. furthest behind. The coward could always be found in the *hindmost* lines whenever a battle was being waged.

**hindrance** N. block; obstacle. Stalled cars along the highway are a *hindrance* to traffic that tow trucks should remove without delay. hinder, V.

**hinterlands** N. back country. They seldom had visitors, living as they did way out in the *hinterlands*.

**hireling** N. one who serves for hire (usually used contemptuously). In a matter of such importance, I do not wish to deal with *hirelings*; I must meet with the chief.

**hirsute** ADJ. hairy. He was a *hirsute* individual with a heavy black beard.

**histrionic** ADJ. theatrical. He was proud of his *histrionic* ability and wanted to play the role of Hamlet. histrionics, N.

**hoard** V. stockpile; accumulate for future use. Whenever there are rumors of a food shortage, people are tempted to *hoard* food. also N.

**hoary** ADJ. white with age. The man was *hoary* and wrinkled when he was 70.

**hoax** N. trick; practical joke. Embarrassed by the *hoax*, she reddened and left the room. also V.

**holocaust** N. destruction by fire. Citizens of San Francisco remember that the destruction of the city was

caused not by the earthquake but by the *holocaust* that followed.

**holster** N. pistol case. Even when he was not in uniform, he carried a *holster* and pistol under his arm.

**homage** N. honor; tribute. In her speech she tried to pay *homage* to a great man.

**homeostasis** N. tendency of a system to maintain relative stability. A breakdown of the body's immune system severely undermines the body's ability to maintain *homeostasis*.

**homespun** ADJ. domestic; made at home. *Homespun* wit, like *homespun* cloth, was often coarse and plain.

**homily** N. sermon; serious warning. His speeches were always *homilies*, advising his listeners to repent and reform. homiletic, ADJ.

**homogeneous** ADJ. of the same kind. Because the student body at Elite Prep was so *homogeneous*, Sara and James decided to send their daughter to a school that offered greater cultural diversity. homogeneity, N.

**hone** V. sharpen. To make shaving easier, he *honed* his razor with great care.

**hoodwink** V. deceive; delude. Having been *hoodwinked* once by the fast-talking salesman, he was extremely cautious when he went to purchase a used car.

**horde** N. crowd. Just before Christmas the stores are filled with *hordes* of shoppers.

**hortatory** ADJ. encouraging; exhortive. The crowd listened to his *hortatory* statements with ever-growing excitement; finally they rushed from the hall to carry out his suggestions.

**horticultural** ADJ. pertaining to cultivation of gardens. When he bought his house, he began to look for flowers and decorative shrubs, and began to read books dealing with *horticultural* matters.

**hostility** N. unfriendliness; hatred. A child who has been the sole object of his parents' affection often feels *hostility* toward a new baby in the family, resenting the newcomer who has taken his place. hostile, ADJ.

**hovel** N. shack; small, wretched house. She wondered how poor people could stand living in such a *hovel*.

**hover** V. hang about; wait nearby. The police helicopter *hovered* above the accident.

**hubbub** N. confused uproar. The marketplace was a scene of *hubbub* and excitement; in all the noise, we could not distinguish particular voices.

**hubris** N. arrogance; excessive self-conceit. Filled with *hubris*, Lear refused to heed his friends' warnings.

**hue** N. color; aspect. The aviary contained birds of every possible *hue*.

**hue and cry** N. outcry. When her purse was snatched, she raised such a *hue and cry* that the thief was captured.

**humane** ADJ. marked by kindness or consideration. It is ironic that the *Humane Society* sometimes must show its compassion toward mistreated animals by killing them to end their misery.

**humdrum** ADJ. dull; monotonous. After her years of adventure, she could not settle down to a *humdrum* existence.

**humid** ADJ. damp. She could not stand the *humid* climate and moved to a drier area.

**humility** N. humbleness of spirit. He spoke with a *humility* and lack of pride that impressed his listeners.

**hummock** N. small hill. The ascent of the *hummock* is not difficult and the view from the hilltop is ample reward for the effort.

**humus** N. substance formed by decaying vegetable matter. In order to improve his garden, he spread *humus* over his lawn and flower beds.

**hurtle** V. crash; rush. The runaway train *hurtled* toward disaster.

**husband** V. use sparingly; conserve; save. Marathon runners must *husband* their energy so that they can keep going for the entire distance.

**husbandry** N. frugality; thrift; agriculture. He accumulated his small fortune by diligence and *husbandry*.

**hybrid** N. mongrel; mixed breed. Mendel's formula explains the appearance of *hybrids* and pure species in breeding. also ADJ.

**hydrophobia** N. fear of water; rabies. A dog that bites a human being must be observed for symptoms of *hydrophobia*.

■ **hyperbole** N. exaggeration; overstatement. As far as I'm concerned, Apple's claims about the new computer are pure *hyperbole*; no machine is that good! **hyperbolic**, ADJ.

**hypercritical** ADJ. excessively exacting. You are *hypercritical* in your demands for perfection; we all make mistakes.

**hypochondriac** N. person unduly worried about his health; worrier without cause about illness. The doctor prescribed chocolate pills for her patient who was a *hypochondriac*.

**hypocritical** ADJ. pretending to be virtuous; deceiving. Because he believed Eddie to be interested only in his own advancement, Greg resented Eddie's *hypocritical* protestations of friendship. **hypocrisy**, N.

**hypothetical** ADJ. based on assumptions or hypotheses; supposed. Suppose you are accepted by Harvard, Stanford, and Yale. Which graduate school will you choose to attend? Remember, this is only a *hypothetical* situation. **hypothesis**, N.

**ichthyology** N. study of fish. Jacques Cousteau's programs about sea life have advanced the cause of *ichthyology*.

**icon** N. religious image; idol. The *icons* on the walls of the church were painted in the 13th century.

■ **iconoclastic** ADJ. attacking cherished traditions. Deeply *iconoclastic*, Jean Genet deliberately set out to shock conventional theatergoers with his radical plays. **iconoclasm**, N.

**ideology** N. system of ideas characteristic of a group or culture. For people who had grown up believing in the Communist *ideology*, it was hard to adjust to capitalism.

**idiom** N. expression whose meaning as a whole differs from the meanings of its individual words; distinctive style. The phrase "to lose one's marbles" is an *idiom*; if I say that Joe has lost his marbles, I'm not asking you to find them for him. I'm telling you *idiomatically* that he's crazy.

**idiosyncrasy** N. individual trait, usually odd in nature; eccentricity. One of Richard Nixon's little *idiosyncrasies* was his liking for ketchup on cottage cheese. One of Henniferal Lecter's little *idiosyncrasies* was his liking for human flesh. **idiosyncratic**, ADJ.

■ **idolatry** N. worship of idols; excessive admiration. Such *idolatry* of singers of country music is typical of the excessive enthusiasm of youth.

**idyllic** ADJ. charmingly carefree; simple. Far from the city, she led an *idyllic* existence in her rural retreat.

**igneous** ADJ. produced by fire; volcanic. Lava, pumice, and other *igneous* rocks are found in great abundance around Mount Vesuvius near Naples.

**ignite** V. kindle; light. When Desi crooned, "Baby, light my fire," literal-minded Lucy looked around for some paper to *ignite*.

**ignoble** ADJ. unworthy; not noble. A true knight, Sir Galahad never stooped to perform an *ignoble* deed.

**ignominy** N. deep disgrace; shame or dishonor. To lose the Ping-Pong match to a trained chimpanzee! How could Rollo endure the *ignominy* of his defeat? **ignominious**, ADJ.

**illicit** ADJ. illegal. The defense attorney claimed that the police had entrapped his client; that is, they had elicited the *illicit* action of which they now accused him.

**illimitable** ADJ. infinite. Human beings, having explored the far corners of the earth, are now reaching out into *illimitable* space.

**illuminate** v. brighten; clear up or make understandable; enlighten. Just as a lamp can *illuminate* a dark room, a perceptive comment can *illuminate* a knotty problem.

**illusion** n. misleading vision. It is easy to create an optical *illusion* in which lines of equal length appear different.

**illusive** ADJ. deceiving. This is only a mirage; let us not be fooled by its *illusive* effect.

**illusory** ADJ. deceptive; not real. Unfortunately, the costs of running the lemonade stand were so high that Tom's profits proved *illusory*.

**imbalance** n. lack of balance or symmetry; disproportion. To correct racial *imbalance* in the schools, school boards have bused black children into white neighborhoods and white children into black ones.

**imbecility** n. weakness of mind. I am amazed at the *imbecility* of the readers of these trashy magazines.

**imbibe** v. drink in. The dry soil *imbibed* the rain quickly.

**imbroglio** n. complicated situation; painful or complex misunderstanding; entanglement; confused mass (as of papers). The humor of Shakespearean comedies often depends on cases of mistaken identity that involve the perplexed protagonists in one comic *imbroglio* after another. **embroil**, v.

**imbue** v. saturate, fill. His visits to the famous Gothic cathedrals *imbued* him with feelings of awe and reverence.

## Test

### Word List 23 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

331. HIBERNAL (A) musical (B) summerlike (C) local (D) seasonal (E) discordant
332. HILARITY (A) gloom (B) heartiness (C) weakness (D) casualty (E) paucity
333. HIRSUTE (A) scaly (B) bald (C) erudite (D) quiet (E) long
334. HORTATORY (A) inquiring (B) denying (C) killing (D) frantic (E) dissuading
335. HOVER (A) commence (B) soothe (C) leave (D) transform (E) solidify
336. HUBBUB (A) calm (B) fury (C) capital (D) axle (E) wax

337. HUMMOCK (A) unmusical (B) scorn (C) wakefulness (D) vale (E) vestment
338. HUSBANDRY (A) sportsmanship (B) dishonesty (C) wastefulness (D) friction (E) cowardice
339. HYBRID (A) productive (B) special (C) purebred (D) oafish (E) genial
340. HYPERBOLE (A) velocity (B) climax (C) curve (D) understatement (E) expansion
341. HYPERCRITICAL (A) tolerant (B) false (C) extreme (D) inarticulate (E) cautious
342. HYPOCRITICAL (A) sincere (B) narrow-minded (C) shameful (D) emiable (E) modest
343. HYPOTHETICAL (A) rational (B) fantastic (C) wizened (D) opposed (E) axiomatic
344. IGNOBLE (A) produced by fire (B) worthy (C) given to questioning (D) huge (E) known
345. ILLUSIVE (A) not deceptive (B) not certain (C) not obvious (D) not coherent (E) not brilliant

### Word List 24 immaculate-incessant

**immaculate** ADJ. spotless; flawless; absolutely clean. Ken and Jessica were wonderful tenants who left the apartment in *immaculate* condition when they moved out.

**imminent** ADJ. near at hand; impending. Rosa was such a last-minute worker that she could never start writing a paper till the deadline was *imminent*.

**immobility** n. state of being immovable. Modern armies cannot afford the luxury of *immobility*, as they are vulnerable to attack while standing still.

**immolate** v. offer as a sacrifice. The tribal king offered to *immolate* his daughter to quiet the angry gods.

**immune** ADJ. resistant to; free or exempt from. Fortunately, Florence had contracted chicken pox as a child and was *immune* to it when her baby came down with spots. **Immunity**, n.

**imure** v. imprison; shut up in confinement. For the two weeks before the examination, the student *immured* himself in his room and concentrated upon his studies.

■ **immutable** ADJ. unchangeable. All things change over time; nothing is *immutable*.

■ **impair** v. injure; hurt. Drinking alcohol can *impair* your ability to drive safely; if you're going to drink, don't drive.

**impale** v. pierce. He was *impaled* by the spear hurled by his adversary.



**impalpable** ADJ. imperceptible; intangible. The ash is so fine that it is *impalpable* to the touch but it can be seen as a fine layer covering the window ledge.

**impartial** ADJ. not biased; fair. Knowing she could not be *impartial* about her own child, Jo refused to judge any match in which Billy was competing. *impartiality*, N.

**impassable** ADJ. not able to be traveled or crossed. A giant redwood had fallen across the highway, blocking all four lanes: the road was *impassable*.

**impasse** N. predicament from which there is no escape. In this *impasse*, all turned to prayer as their last hope.

■ **impassive** ADJ. without feeling; imperturbable; stoical. Refusing to let the enemy see how deeply shaken he was by his capture, the prisoner kept his face *impassive*.

**impeach** V. charge with crime in office; indict. The angry congressman wanted to *impeach* the president for his misdeeds.

**impeccable** ADJ. faultless. The uncrowned queen of the fashion industry, Diana was acclaimed for her *impeccable* taste.

**impecunious** ADJ. without money. Though Scrooge claimed he was too *impecunious* to give alms, he easily could have afforded to be charitable.

■ **impede** V. hinder; block. The special prosecutor determined that the Attorney General, though inept, had not intentionally set out to *impede* the progress of the investigation.

**impediment** N. hindrance; stumbling-block. She had a speech *impediment* that prevented her from speaking clearly.

**impel** V. drive or force onward. A strong feeling of urgency *impelled* her; if she failed to finish the project right then, she knew that she would never get it done.

**impending** ADJ. nearing; approaching. The entire country was saddened by the news of his *impending* death.

**impenetrable** ADJ. not able to be pierced or entered; beyond understanding. How could the murderer have gotten into the locked room? To Watson, the mystery, like the room, was *impenetrable*.

**impenitent** ADJ. not repentant. We could see by his brazen attitude that he was *impenitent*.

**imperative** ADJ. absolutely necessary; critically important. It is *imperative* that you be extremely agreeable to Great-Aunt Maud when she comes to tea; otherwise she may not leave you that million dollars in her will. also N.

**imperceptible** ADJ. unnoticeable; undetectable. Fortunately, the stain on the blouse was *imperceptible* after the garment had gone through the wash.

**imperial** ADJ. like an emperor; related to an empire. When hotel owner Leona Helmsley appeared in ads as Queen Leona standing guard over the Palace Hotel, her critics mocked her *imperial* tancies.

**imperious** ADJ. domineering; haughty. Jane rather liked a man to be masterful, but Mr. Rochester seemed so bent on getting his own way that he was actually *imperious*! *imperiousness*, N.

■ **impermeable** ADJ. impervious; not permitting passage through its substance. This new material is *impermeable* to liquids.

**impertinent** ADJ. insolent; rude. His neighbors' *impertinent* curiosity about his lack of dates angered Ted. It was downright rude of them to ask him such personal questions. *impertinence*, N.

■ **imperturbable** ADJ. calm; placid. Wellington remained *imperturbable* and in full command of the situation in spite of the hysteria and panic all around him. *imperturbability*, N.

■ **impervious** ADJ. impenetrable; incapable of being damaged or distressed. The carpet salesman told Simone that his most expensive brand of floor covering was warranted to be *impervious* to ordinary wear and tear. Having read so many negative reviews of his acting, the movie star had learned to ignore them, and was now *impervious* to criticism.

**impetuous** ADJ. violent; hasty; rash. "Leap before you look" was the motto suggested by one particularly *impetuous* young man.

**impetus** N. moving force; incentive; stimulus. A new federal highway program would create jobs and give added *impetus* to our economic recovery.

**impiety** N. irreverence; lack of respect for God. When members of the youth group draped the church in toilet paper one Halloween, the minister reprimanded them for their *impiety*. *impious*, ADJ.

**impinge** V. infringe; touch; collide with. How could they be married without *impinging* on one another's freedom?

**impious** ADJ. irreverent. The congregation was offended by her *impious* remarks.

■ **implacable** ADJ. incapable of being pacified. Madame Defarge was the *implacable* enemy of the Evremonde family.

**implausible** ADJ. unlikely; unbelievable. Though her alibi seemed *implausible*, it in fact turned out to be true.

**implement** V. put into effect; supply with tools. The mayor was unwilling to *implement* the plan until she was sure it had the governor's backing. also N.

**implicate** V. incriminate; show to be involved. Here's the deal: if you agree to take the witness stand and *implicate* your partners in crime, the prosecution will recommend that the judge go easy in sentencing you.

**implication** N. something hinted at or suggested. When Miss Watson said she hadn't seen her purse since the last time Jim was in the house, the *implication* was that she suspected Jim had taken it.

■ **implicit** ADJ. understood but not stated. Jack never told Jill he adored her; he believed his love was *implicit* in his deeds.

■ **implode** V. burst inward. If you break a vacuum tube, the glass tube *implodes*. *implosion*, N.

**implore** V. beg. He *implored* her to give him a second chance.

**imply** v. suggest a meaning not expressed; signify. When Aunt Millie said, "My! That's a big piece of pie, young man!" was she *implying* that Bobby was being a glutton in helping himself to such a huge piece?

**impolitic** ADJ. not wise. I think it is *impolitic* to raise this issue at the present time because the public is too angry.

**imponderable** ADJ. weightless. I can evaluate the data gathered in this study; the *imponderable* items are not so easily analyzed.

**import** n. significance. I feel that you have not grasped the full *import* of the message sent to us by the enemy.

**importunate** ADJ. urging; demanding. He tried to hide from his *importunate* creditors until his allowance arrived.

**importune** v. beg persistently. Democratic and Republican phone solicitors *importuned* her for contributions so frequently that she decided to give nothing to either party.

**imposture** n. assuming a false identity; masquerade. She was imprisoned for her *imposture* of a doctor.

**impotent** ADJ. weak; ineffective. Although he wished to break the nicotine habit, he found himself *impotent* in resisting the craving for a cigarette.

**imprecation** n. curse. Roused from bed at what he considered an ungodly hour, Roy muttered *imprecations* under his breath.

**impregnable** ADJ. invulnerable. Until the development of the airplane as a military weapon, the fort was considered *impregnable*.

**impromptu** ADJ. without previous preparation; off the cuff; on the spur of the moment. The judges were amazed that she could make such a thorough, well-supported presentation in an *impromptu* speech.

**impropriety** n. impropriety; unsuitableness. Because of the *impropriety* of the punk rocker's slashed T-shirt and jeans, the management refused to admit him to the hotel's very formal dining room.

**improvident** ADJ. thriftless. He was constantly being warned to mend his *improvident* ways and begin to "save for a rainy day." *improvidence*, n.

**improvise** v. compose on the spur of the moment. She would sit at the piano and *improvise* for hours on themes from Bach and Handel.

**imprudent** ADJ. lacking caution; injudicious. It is *imprudent* to exercise vigorously and become overheated when you are unwell.

**impudence** n. impertinence; insolence. Kissed on the cheek by a perfect stranger, Lady Catherine exclaimed, "Of all the nerve! Young man, I should have you horse-whipped for your *impudence*."

**impugn** v. dispute or contradict (often in an insulting way); challenge; gainsay. Our treasurer was furious when the finance committee's report *impugned* the accuracy of his financial records and recommended that he take bonehead math.

**impuissance** n. powerlessness; feebleness. The lame duck president was frustrated by his shift from enormous power to relative *impuissance*.

**impunity** n. freedom from punishment or harm. A 98-pound weakling can't attack a beachfront bully with *impunity*; the poor, puny guy is sure to get mashed.

**impute** v. attribute; ascribe. If I wished to *impute* blame to the officers in charge of this program, I would state my feelings definitely and immediately.

**inadvertently** ADV. unintentionally; by oversight; carelessly. Judy's great fear was that she might *inadvertently* omit a question on the exam and mismark her whole answer sheet.

**inalienable** ADJ. not to be taken away; nontransferable. The Declaration of Independence mentions the *inalienable* rights that all of us possess.

**inane** ADJ. silly; senseless. There's no point in what you're saying. Why are you bothering to make such *inane* remarks? *inanity*, n.

**inanimate** ADJ. lifeless. She was asked to identify the still and *inanimate* body.

**inarticulate** ADJ. speechless; producing indistinct speech. She became *inarticulate* with rage and uttered sounds without meaning.

**inaugurate** v. begin formally; install in office. The candidate promised that he would *inaugurate* a new nationwide health care plan as soon as he was *inaugurated* as president. *inauguration*, n.

**incandescent** ADJ. strikingly bright; shining with intense heat. If you leave on an *incandescent* light bulb, it quickly grows too hot to touch.

**incantation** n. singing or chanting of magic spells; magical formula. Uttering *incantations* to make the brew more potent, the witch doctor stirred the liquid in the caldron.

**incapacitate** v. disable. During the winter, many people were *incapacitated* by respiratory ailments.

**incarcerate** v. imprison. The civil rights workers were willing to be arrested and even *incarcerated* if by their imprisonment they could serve the cause.

**incarnate** ADJ. endowed with flesh; personified. Your attitude is so fiendish that you must be a devil *incarnate*.

**incarnation** n. act of assuming a human body and human nature. The *incarnation* of Jesus Christ is a basic tenet of Christian theology.

**incendiary** n. arsonist. The fire spread in such an unusual manner that the fire department chiefs were certain that it had been set by an *incendiary*. also ADJ.

**incense** v. enrage; infuriate. Cruelty to defenseless animals *incensed* Kit: the very idea brought tears of anger to her eyes.

**incentive** n. spur; motive. Mike's strong desire to outshine his big sister was all the *incentive* he needed to do well in school.

**inception** n. start; beginning. She was involved with the project from its *inception*.

**incessant** ADJ. uninterrupted; unceasing. In a famous TV commercial, the frogs' *incessant* croaking goes on and on until eventually it turns into a single word: "Bud-weis-er."

## Test

Word List 24 *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

346. IMMOLATE (A) debate (B) scour (C) sacrifice (D) sanctify (E) ratify
347. IMMUTABLE (A) silent (B) changeable (C) articulate (D) loyal (E) varied
348. IMPAIR (A) separate (B) make amends (C) make worse (D) falsify (E) cancel
349. IMPALPABLE (A) obvious (B) combined (C) high (D) connecting (E) lost
350. IMPASSIVE (A) active (B) demonstrative (C) perfect (D) anxious (E) irritated
351. IMPECCABLE (A) unmentionable (B) quoteable (C) blinding (D) faulty (E) hampering
352. IMPECUNIOUS (A) affluent (B) afflicted (C) affectionate (D) affable (E) afraid
353. IMPERVIOUS (A) impenetrable (B) perplexing (C) chaotic (D) cool (E) perfect
354. IMPETUOUS (A) rash (B) inane (C) just (D) flagrant (E) redolent
355. IMPOLITIC (A) campaigning (B) advisable (C) eggressive (D) legal (E) fortunate
356. IMPORTUNE (A) export (B) plead (C) exhibit (D) account (E) visit
357. IMPROMPTU (A) prompted (B) appropriate (C) rehearsed (D) foolish (E) vast
358. INALIENABLE (A) inherent (B) repugnant (C) closed to immigration (D) full (E) accountable
359. INANE (A) passive (B) wise (C) intoxicated (D) mellow (E) silent
360. INCARCERATE (A) inhibit (B) acquit (C) account (D) imprison (E) force

Word List 25 *inchoate-infraction*

■ **inchoate** ADJ. recently begun; rudimentary; elementary. Before the Creation, the world was an *inchoate* mass.

**incidence** N. rate of occurrence; particular occurrence. Health professionals expressed great concern over the high *incidence* of infant mortality in major urban areas.

**incidental** ADJ. not essential; minor. The scholarship covered his major expenses at college and some of his *incidental* expenses as well.

**incipient** ADJ. beginning; in an early stage. I will go to sleep early for I want to break an *incipient* cold.

**incisive** ADJ. cutting; sharp. Her *incisive* remarks made us see the fallacy in our plans. **incision**, N.

**incite** V. arouse to action; goad; motivate; induce to exist. In a fiery speech, Mario *incited* his fellow students to go out on strike to protest the university's anti-affirmative-action stand.

**inclement** ADJ. stormy; unkind. In *inclement* weather, I like to curl up on the sofa with a good book and listen to the storm blowing outside.

**incline** N. slope; slant. The architect recommended that the nursing home's ramp be rebuilt because its *incline* was too steep for wheelchairs.

**inclined** ADJ. tending or leaning toward; bent. Though I am *inclined* to be skeptical, the witness's manner *inclines* me to believe his story. **incline**, V.

**inclusive** ADJ. tending to include all. The comedian turned down the invitation to join the Players' Club, saying any club that would let him in was too *inclusive* for him.

**incognito** ADV. with identity concealed; using an assumed name. The monarch enjoyed travelling through the town *incognito* and mingling with the populace. also ADJ.

**incoherent** ADJ. unintelligible; muddled; illogical. The excited fan blushed and stammered, her words becoming almost *incoherent* in the thrill of meeting her favorite rock star face to face. **incoherence**, N.

**incommodious** ADJ. not spacious; inconvenient. In their *incommodious* quarters, they had to improvise for closet space.

**incompatible** ADJ. inharmonious. The married couple argued incessantly and finally decided to separate because they were *incompatible*. **incompatibility**, N.

■ **incongruity** N. lack of harmony; absurdity. The *incongruity* of his wearing sneakers with formal attire amused the observers. **incongruous**, ADJ.

■ **inconsequential** ADJ. insignificant; unimportant. Brushing off Ali's apologies for having broken the wine glass, Tamara said, "Don't worry about it; it's *inconsequential*."

**inconsistency** N. state of being self-contradictory; lack of uniformity or steadiness. How are lawyers different from agricultural inspectors? Where lawyers check *inconsistencies* in witness' statements, agricultural inspectors check *inconsistencies* in Grade A eggs. **inconsistent**, ADJ.

**incontinent** ADJ. lacking self-restraint; licentious. His *incontinent* behavior off stage so shocked many people that they refused to attend the plays and movies in which he appeared.

**incontrovertible** ADJ. indisputable; not open to question. Unless you find the evidence against my client absolutely *incontrovertible*, you must declare her not guilty of this charge.

■ **incorporate** v. introduce something into a larger whole; combine; unite. Breaking with precedent, President Truman ordered the military to *incorporate* blacks into every branch of the armed services. also ADJ.

**incorporeal** ADJ. lacking a material body; insubstantial. Although Casper the friendly ghost is an *incorporeal* being, he and his fellow ghosts make quite an impact on the physical world.

**incorrigible** ADJ. uncorrectable. Though Widow Douglass hoped to reform Huck, Miss Watson pronounced him *incorrigible* and said he would come to no good end.

**incredulity** N. tendency to disbelief. Your *incredulity* in the face of all the evidence is hard to understand.

**incredulous** ADJ. withholding belief; skeptical. When Jack claimed he hadn't eaten the jelly doughnut, Jill took an *incredulous* look at his smeared face and laughed.

**increment** N. increase. The new contract calls for a ten percent *increment* in salary for each employee for the next two years.

**incriminate** v. accuse; serve as evidence against. The witness's testimony against the racketeers *incriminates* some high public officials as well.

**incrustation** N. hard coating or crust. In dry dock, we scraped off the *incrustation* of dirt and barnacles that covered the hull of the ship.

**incubate** v. hatch. Inasmuch as our supply of electricity is cut off, we shall have to rely on the hens to *incubate* these eggs.

**incubus** N. burden; mental care; nightmare. The *incubus* of financial worry helped bring on her nervous breakdown.

**inculcate** v. teach. In an effort to *inculcate* religious devotion, the officials ordered that the school day begin with the singing of a hymn.

**incumbent** ADJ. obligatory; currently holding an office. It is *incumbent* upon all *incumbent* elected officials to keep accurate records of expenses incurred in office. also N.

**incur** v. bring upon oneself. His parents refused to pay any future debts he might *incur*.

**incursion** N. temporary invasion. The nightly *incursions* and hit-and-run raids of our neighbors across the border tried the patience of the country to the point where we decided to retaliate in force.

**indefatigable** ADJ. tireless. Although the effort of taking out the garbage exhausted Wayne for the entire morning, when it came to partying, he was *indefatigable*.

**indelible** ADJ. not able to be erased. The *indelible* ink left a permanent mark on my shirt. Young Bill Clinton's meeting with President Kennedy made an *indelible* impression on the youth.

**indemnify** v. make secure against loss; compensate for loss. The city will *indemnify* all home owners whose property is spoiled by this project.

**indentation** N. notch; deep recess. You can tell one tree from another by noting the differences in the *indentations* along the edges of the leaves. indent, v.

**indenture** v. bind as servant or apprentice to master. Many immigrants could come to America only after they had *indentured* themselves for several years. also N.

■ **indeterminate** ADJ. uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite. That interest rates shall rise appears certain; when they will do so, however, remains *indeterminate*.

**indicative** ADJ. suggestive; implying. A lack of appetite may be *indicative* of a major mental or physical disorder.

**indices** N. PL. signs; indications. Many college admissions officers believe that SAT scores and high school grades are the best *indices* of a student's potential to succeed in college. index, N. SING.

**indict** v. charge. The district attorney didn't want to *indict* the suspect until she was sure she had a strong enough case to convince a jury. indictment, N.

**indifferent** ADJ. unmoved or unconcerned by; mediocre. Because Ann felt no desire to marry, she was *indifferent* to Carl's constant proposals. Not only was she *indifferent* to him personally, but she felt that, given his general inanity, he would make an *indifferent* husband.

■ **indigence** N. poverty. Neither the economists nor the political scientists have found a way to wipe out the inequities of wealth and eliminate *indigence* from our society. indigent, ADJ., N.

**indigenous** ADJ. native. Cigarettes are made of tobacco, a plant *indigenous* to the New World.

**indigent** ADJ. poor; destitute. Someone who is truly *indigent* can't even afford to buy a pack of cigarettes. [Don't mix up *indigent* and *indigenous*. See preceding entry.] also N.

**indignation** N. anger at an injustice. She felt *indignation* at the ill-treatment of the helpless animals.

**indignity** N. offensive or insulting treatment. Although he seemed to accept cheerfully the *indignities* heaped upon him, he was inwardly very angry.

**indiscriminate** ADJ. choosing at random; confused. She disapproved of her son's *indiscriminate* television viewing and decided to restrict him to educational programs.

**indisputable** ADJ. too certain to be disputed. In the face of these *indisputable* statements, I withdraw my complaint.

**indissoluble** ADJ. permanent. The *indissoluble* bonds of marriage are all too often being dissolved.

**indite** v. write; compose. Cyrano *indited* many letters for Christian.

■ **indolent** ADJ. lazy. Couch potatoes lead an *indolent* life lying back in their Lazyboy recliners watching TV. indolence, N.

**indomitable** ADJ. unconquerable; unyielding. Focusing on her game despite all her personal problems, tennis champion Steffi Graf displayed an *indomitable* will to win.

**indubitable** ADJ. unable to be doubted; unquestionable. Auditioning for the chorus line, Molly was an *indubitable* hit: the director fired the leading lady and hired Molly in her place!

**induce** V. persuade; bring about. After the quarrel, Tina said nothing could *induce* her to talk to Tony again. **inducement**, N.

**inductive** ADJ. pertaining to induction or proceeding from the specific to the general. The discovery of the planet Pluto is an excellent example of the results that can be obtained from *inductive* reasoning.

**indulgent** ADJ. humoring; yielding; lenient. Jay's mom was excessively *indulgent*: she bought him every computer game on the market. In fact, she *indulged* Jay so much, she spoiled him rotten.

**industrious** ADJ. diligent; hard-working. Look busy when the boss walks by your desk; it never hurts to appear *industrious*. **industry**, N.

**inebriated** ADJ. habitually intoxicated; drunk. Abe was *inebriated* more often than he was sober. Because of his *inebriety*, he was discharged from his job as a bus driver.

**ineffable** ADJ. unutterable; cannot be expressed in speech. Such *ineffable* joy must be experienced; it cannot be described.

**ineffectual** ADJ. not effective; weak. Because the candidate failed to get across her message to the public, her campaign was *ineffectual*.

**ineluctable** ADJ. irresistible; not to be escaped. He felt that his fate was *ineluctable* and refused to make any attempt to improve his lot.

**inept** ADJ. lacking skill; unsuited; incompetent. The *inept* glove-maker was all thumbs. **ineptness**, N.

**inequity** N. unfairness. In demanding equal pay for equal work, women protest the basic *inequity* of a system that allots greater financial rewards to men. **inequitable**, ADJ.

**inerrancy** N. infallibility. Jane refused to believe in the pope's *inerrancy*, reasoning: "All human beings are capable of error. The pope is a human being. Therefore, the pope is capable of error."

■ **Inert** ADJ. inactive; lacking power to move. "Get up, you lazybones," Tina cried to Tony, who lay in bed *inert*. **inertia**, N.

**inevitable** ADJ. unavoidable. Though death and taxes are both supposedly *inevitable*, some people avoid paying taxes for years.

**inexorable** ADJ. relentless; unyielding; implacable. After listening to the pleas for clemency, the judge was *inexorable* and gave the convicted man the maximum punishment allowed by law.

**infallible** ADJ. unerring. We must remember that none of us is *infallible*; we all make mistakes.

**infamous** ADJ. notoriously bad. Charles Manson and Jeffrey Dahmer are two examples of *infamous* killers.

**infantile** ADJ. childish; infantlike. When will he outgrow such *infantile* behavior?

**infer** V. deduce; conclude. From the students' glazed looks, it was easy for me to *infer* that they were bored out of their minds. **inference**, N.

**infernally** ADJ. pertaining to hell; devilish. Batman was baffled: he could think of no way to hinder the Joker's *infernally* scheme to destroy the city.

**infidel** N. unbeliever. The Saracens made war against the *infidels*.

**infiltrate** V. pass into or through; penetrate (an organization) sneakily. In order to *infiltrate* enemy lines at night without being seen, the scouts darkened their faces and wore black coveralls. **infiltrator**, N.

**infinitesimal** ADJ. very small. In the twentieth century, physicists have made their greatest discoveries about the characteristics of *infinitesimal* objects like the atom and its parts.

**infirmity** N. weakness. Her greatest *infirmity* was lack of willpower.

**inflated** ADJ. exaggerated; pompous; enlarged (with air or gas). His claims about the new product were *inflated*; it did not work as well as he had promised.

**influx** N. flowing into. The *influx* of refugees into the country has taxed the relief agencies severely.

**infraction** N. violation (of a rule or regulation); breach. When basketball star Dennis Rodman butted heads with the referee, he committed a clear *infraction* of NBA rules.

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## Test

Word List 25 *Synonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

361. INCLEMENT (A) unfavorable (B) abandoned (C) kindly (D) selfish (E) active
362. INCOMPATIBLE (A) capable (B) reasonable (C) faulty (D) indifferent (E) alienated
363. INCONSEQUENTIAL (A) disorderly (B) insignificant (C) subsequent (D) insufficient (E) preceding
364. INCONTINENT (A) insular (B) complaisant (C) crass (D) wanton (E) false
365. INCORRIGIBLE (A) narrow (B) straight (C) inconceivable (D) unreliable (E) unreformable
366. INCRIMINATE (A) exacerbate (B) involve (C) intimidate (D) lacerate (E) prevaricate
367. INCULCATE (A) exculpate (B) educate (C) exonerate (D) prepare (E) embarrass
368. INDIGENT (A) lazy (B) pusillanimous (C) penurious (D) affluent (E) contrary
369. INDIGNITY (A) pomposity (B) bombast (C) obeisance (D) insult (E) message
370. INDOLENCE (A) sloth (B) poverty (C) latitude (D) aptitude (E) anger
371. INDUBITABLY (A) flagrantly (B) doubtfully (C) carefully (D) carelessly (E) certainly
372. INEBRIETY (A) revelation (B) drunkenness (C) felony (D) starvation (E) gluttony
373. INEPT (A) outward (B) spiritual (C) foolish (D) clumsy (E) abundant
374. INFALLIBLE (A) final (B) unbelievable (C) perfect (D) inaccurate (E) inquisitive
375. INFIRMITY (A) disability (B) age (C) inoculation (D) hospital (E) unity

Word List 26 *infringe-invert*

**infringe** v. violate; encroach. I think your machine *infringes* on my patent and I intend to sue.

**ingenious** ADJ. clever; resourceful. Kit admired the *ingenious* way that her computer keyboard opened up to reveal the built-in CD-ROM below. Ingenuity, N.

■ **ingenuous** ADJ. naive and trusting; young; unsophisticated. The woodsman did not realize how *ingenuous* Little Red Riding Hood was until he heard that she had gone off for a walk in the woods with the Big Bad Wolf. ingenuite, N.

**ingrained** ADJ. deeply established; firmly rooted. Try as they would, the missionaries were unable to uproot the *ingrained* superstitions of the natives.

**ingrate** N. ungrateful person. That *ingrate* Bob sneered at the tie I gave him.

**ingratiate** v. become popular with. He tried to *ingratiate* himself into her parents' good graces.

■ **inherent** ADJ. firmly established by nature or habit. Katya's *inherent* love of justice caused her to champion anyone she considered to be treated unfairly by society.

**inhibit** v. restrain; retard or prevent. Only two things *inhibited* him from taking a punch at Mike Tyson: Tyson's left hook, and Tyson's right jab. The protective undercoating on my car *inhibits* the formation of rust. Inhibition, N.

**inimical** ADJ. unfriendly; hostile; harmful; detrimental. I've always been friendly to Martha. Why is she so *inimical* to me?

**inimitable** ADJ. matchless; not able to be imitated. We admire Auden for his *inimitable* use of language; he is one of a kind.

**iniquitous** ADJ. wicked; immoral; unrighteous. Whether or not King Richard III was responsible for the murder of the two young princes in the Tower, it was an *iniquitous* deed. iniquity, N.

**initiate** v. begin; originate; receive into a group. The college is about to *initiate* a program for reducing math anxiety among students.

**injurious** ADJ. harmful. Smoking cigarettes can be *injurious* to your health.

**inkling** N. hint. This came as a complete surprise to me as I did not have the slightest *inkling* of your plans.

**Innate** ADJ. inborn. Mozart's parents soon recognized young Wolfgang's *innate* talent for music.

■ **Innocuous** ADJ. harmless. An occasional glass of wine with dinner is relatively *innocuous* and should have no ill effect on most people.

**Innovation** N. change; introduction of something new. Although Richard liked to keep up with all the latest technological *innovations*, he didn't always abandon tried and true techniques in favor of something new. Innovate, v. Innovative, ADJ.

**Innuendo** N. hint; insinuation. I can defend myself against direct accusations; *innuendos* and oblique attacks on my character are what trouble me.



**inopportune** ADJ. untimely; poorly chosen. A rock concert is an *inopportune* setting for a quiet conversation.

**inordinate** ADJ. unrestrained; excessive. She had an *inordinate* fondness for candy, eating two or three boxes in a single day.

**inquisitor** N. questioner (especially harsh); investigator. Fearing being grilled ruthlessly by the secret police, Marsha faced her *inquisitors* with trepidation.

**insalubrious** ADJ. unwholesome; not healthful. The mosquito-ridden swamp was an *insalubrious* place, a breeding ground for malarial contagion.

**insatiable** ADJ. not easily satisfied; unquenchable; greedy. The young writer's thirst for knowledge was *insatiable*; she was always in the library.

**inscrutable** ADJ. impenetrable; not readily understood; mysterious. Experienced poker players try to keep their expressions *inscrutable*, hiding their reactions to the cards behind a so-called poker face.

**insensate** ADJ. without feeling. She lay there as *insensate* as a log.

■ **insensible** ADJ. unconscious; unresponsive. Sherry and I are very different; at times when I would be covered with embarrassment, she seems *insensible* to shame.

**insidious** ADJ. treacherous; stealthy; sly. The fifth column is *insidious* because it works secretly within our territory for our defeat.

**insightful** ADJ. discerning; perceptive. Sol thought he was very *insightful* about human behavior, but actually he was clueless as to why people acted the way they did.

■ **insinuate** V. hint; imply; creep in. When you said I looked robust, did you mean to *insinuate* that I'm getting fat?

■ **insipid** ADJ. lacking in flavor; dull. Flat prose and flat ginger ale are equally *insipid*: both lack sparkle.

**insolence** N. impudent disrespect; haughtiness. How dare you treat me so rudely! The manager will hear of your *insolence*. insolent, ADJ.

**insolvent** ADJ. bankrupt; lacking money to pay. When rumors that he was *insolvent* reached his creditors, they began to press him for payment of the money due them. insolvency, N.

**insomnia** N. wakefulness; inability to sleep. She refused to join us in a midnight cup of coffee because she claimed it gave her *insomnia*.

**insouciant** ADJ. indifferent; without concern or care. Your *insouciant* attitude at such a critical moment indicates that you do not understand the gravity of the situation.

**instigate** V. urge; start; provoke. Delighting in making mischief, Sir Toby sets out to *instigate* a quarrel between Sir Andrew and Cesario.

**insubordination** N. disobedience; rebelliousness. At the slightest hint of *insubordination* from the sailors on the *Bounty*, Captain Bligh had them flogged; finally, they mutinied. insubordinate, ADJ.

**insubstantial** ADJ. lacking substance; insignificant; frail. His hopes for a career in acting proved *insubstantial*; no one would cast him, even in an *insubstantial* role.

■ **insularity** N. narrow-mindedness; isolation. The *insularity* of the islanders manifested itself in their suspicion of anything foreign. insular, ADJ.

**insuperable** ADJ. insurmountable; unbeatable. Though the odds against their survival seemed *insuperable*, the Apollo 13 astronauts reached earth safely.

**insurgent** ADJ. rebellious. Because the *insurgent* forces had occupied the capital and had gained control of the railway lines, several of the war correspondents covering the uprising predicted a rebel victory. also N. insurgency, N.

**insurmountable** ADJ. overwhelming; unbeatable; insuperable. Facing almost *insurmountable* obstacles, the members of the underground maintained their courage and will to resist.

**insurrection** N. rebellion; uprising. In retrospect, given how badly the British treated the American colonists, the eventual *insurrection* seems inevitable.

**intangible** ADJ. not able to be perceived by touch; vague. Though the financial benefits of his Oxford post were meager, Lewis was drawn to it by its *intangible* rewards: prestige, intellectual freedom, the fellowship of his peers.

**integral** ADJ. complete; necessary for completeness. Physical education is an *integral* part of our curriculum; a sound mind and a sound body are complementary.

**integrate** V. make whole; combine; make into one unit. She tried to *integrate* all their activities into one program.

**integrity** N. uprightness; wholeness. Lincoln, whose personal *integrity* has inspired millions, fought a civil war to maintain the *integrity* of the republic, that these United States might remain undivided for all time.

**intellect** N. higher mental powers. He thought college would develop his *intellect*.

**intelligentsia** N. intellectuals; members of the educated elite [often used derogatorily]. She preferred discussions about sports and politics to the literary conversations of the *intelligentsia*.

**inter** V. bury. They are going to *inter* the body tomorrow at Broadlawn Cemetery. interment, N.

**interdict** V. prohibit; forbid. Civilized nations must *interdict* the use of nuclear weapons if we expect our society to live.

**Interim** N. meantime. The company will not consider our proposal until next week; in the interim, let us proceed as we have in the past.

**interloper** N. intruder. The merchant thought of his competitors as *interlopers* who were stealing away his trade.

**interminable** ADJ. endless. Although his speech lasted for only twenty minutes, it seemed *interminable* to his bored audience.

**intermittent** ADJ. periodic; on and off. The outdoor wedding reception had to be moved indoors to avoid the *intermittent* showers that fell on and off all afternoon.

**internecine** ADJ. mutually destructive. The rising death toll on both sides indicates the *internecine* nature of this conflict.

**interpolate** V. insert between. She talked so much that I could not *interpolate* a single remark.

**interregnum** *n.* period between two reigns. Henry VIII desperately sought a male heir because he feared the civil strife that might occur if any prolonged *interregnum* succeeded his death.

**interrogate** *v.* question closely; cross-examine. Knowing that the Nazis would *interrogate* him about his background, the secret agent invented a cover story that would help him meet their questions.

**intervene** *v.* come between. When two close friends get into a fight, be careful if you try to *intervene*; they may join forces and gang up on you. **intervention**, *n.*

**intimate** *v.* hint. She *intimated* rather than stated her preferences.

**intimidate** *v.* frighten. I'll learn karate and then those big bullies won't be able to *intimidate* me anymore. **intimidation**, *n.*

■ **intractable** *adj.* unruly; stubborn; unyielding. Charlie Brown's friend Pigpen was *intractable*; he absolutely refused to take a bath.

■ **intransigence** *n.* refusal of any compromise; stubbornness. The negotiating team had not expected such *intransigence* from the striking workers, who rejected any hint of a compromise. **intransigent**, *adj.*

**intrepid** *adj.* fearless. For her *intrepid* conduct nursing the wounded during the war, Florence Nightingale was honored by Queen Victoria.

**intrinsic** *adj.* essential; inherent; built-in. Although my grandmother's china has little *intrinsic* value, I shall always cherish it for the memories it evokes.

**introspective** *adj.* looking within oneself. Though young Francis of Assisi led a wild and worldly life, even he had *introspective* moments during which he examined his soul. **introspection**, *n.*

**introvert** *n.* "one who is introspective; inclined to think more about oneself. In his poetry, he reveals that he is an *introvert* by his intense interest in his own problems.

**intrude** *v.* trespass; enter as an uninvited person. She hesitated to *intrude* on their conversation.

**intuition** *n.* immediate insight; power of knowing without reasoning. Even though Tony denied that anything was wrong, Tina trusted her *intuition* that something was bothering him. **intuitive**, *adj.* **intuit**, *v.*

■ **inundate** *v.* overwhelm; flood; submerge. This semester I am *inundated* with work; you should see the piles of paperwork flooding my desk. Until the great dam was built, the waters of the Nile used to *inundate* the river valley every year.

■ **inured** *adj.* accustomed; hardened. She became *inured* to the Alaskan cold.

**invalidate** *v.* weaken; destroy. The relatives who received little or nothing sought to *invalidate* the will by claiming that the deceased had not been in his right mind when he signed the document.

■ **invective** *n.* abuse. He had expected criticism but not the *invective* that greeted his proposal.

**inveigh** *v.* denounce; utter censure or invective. He *inveighed* against the demagoguery of the previous speaker and urged that the audience reject his philosophy as dangerous.

**inveigle** *v.* lead astray; wheedle. She was *inveigled* into joining the club after an initial reluctance.

**inverse** *adj.* opposite. There is an *inverse* ratio between the strength of light and its distance.

**invert** *v.* turn upside down or inside out. When he *inverted* his body in a hand stand, he felt the blood rush to his head.

## Test

### Word List 26      Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

376. **INGENUOUS** (A) clever (B) stimulating (C) naive (D) worried (E) cautious
377. **INIMICAL** (A) antagonistic (B) anonymous (C) fanciful (D) accurate (E) atypical
378. **INNOCUOUS** (A) not capable (B) not dangerous (C) not eager (D) not frank (E) not peaceful
379. **INSINUATE** (A) resist (B) suggest (C) report (D) rectify (E) lecture
380. **INSIPID** (A) witty (B) flat (C) wily (D) talkative (E) lucid

381. **INTEGRATE** (A) tolerate (B) unite (C) flow (D) copy (E) assume
382. **INTER** (A) bury (B) amuse (C) relate (D) frequent (E) abandon
383. **INTERDICT** (A) acclaim (B) dispute (C) prohibit (D) decide (E) fret
384. **INTERMITTENT** (A) heavy (B) fleet (C) occasional (D) fearless (E) responding
385. **INTRACTABLE** (A) culpable (B) flexible (C) unruly (D) efficient (E) base
386. **INTRANSIGENCE** (A) lack of training (B) stubbornness (C) novelty (D) timidity (E) cupidity
387. **INTREPID** (A) cold (B) hot (C) understood (D) callow (E) courageous

388. INTRINSIC (A) extrinsic (B) abnormal (C) above  
(D) abandoned (E) basic

389. INUNDATE (A) abuse (B) deny (C) swallow  
(D) treat (E) flood

390. INVEIGH (A) speak violently (B) orate (C) disturb  
(D) apply (E) whisper

## Word List 27 inveterate-laggard

**inveterate** ADJ. deep-rooted; habitual. She is an *inveterate* smoker and cannot break the habit.

**invidious** ADJ. designed to create ill will or envy. We disregarded her *invidious* remarks because we realized how jealous she was.

**invincible** ADJ. unconquerable. Superman is *invincible*.

**inviolable** ADJ. secure from corruption, attack, or violation; unassailable. Batman considered his oath to keep the people of Gotham City safe *inviolable*; nothing on earth could make him break this promise. *inviolability*, N.

**invocation** N. prayer for help; calling upon as a reference or support. The service of Morning Prayer opens with an *invocation* during which we ask God to hear our prayers.

**invoke** V. call upon; ask for. She *invoked* her advisor's aid in filling out her financial aid forms.

**invulnerable** ADJ. incapable of injury. Achilles was *invulnerable* except in his heel.

**iota** N. very small quantity. She hadn't an *iota* of common sense.

■ **irascible** ADJ. irritable; easily angered. Miss Minchin's *irascible* temper intimidated the younger schoolgirls, who feared she'd burst into a rage at any moment.

**irate** ADJ. angry. When John's mother found out that he had overdrawn his checking account for the third month in a row, she was so *irate* that she could scarcely speak to him.

**iridescent** ADJ. exhibiting rainbowlike colors. She admired the *iridescent* hues of the oil that floated on the surface of the water. *iridescence*, N.

**irksome** ADJ. annoying; tedious. He found working on the assembly line *irksome* because of the monotony of the operation he had to perform. *irk*, V.

**ironic** ADJ. occurring in an unexpected and contrary manner. It is *ironic* that his success came when he least wanted it.

**irony** N. hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words that seem to mean the opposite of what they actually mean. Gradually his listeners began to realize that the excessive praise he was lavishing on his opponent was actually *irony*; he was, in fact, ridiculing the poor fool.

**irreconcilable** ADJ. incompatible; not able to be resolved. Because the separated couple were *irreconcilable*, the marriage counselor recommended a divorce.

**irrefutable** ADJ. indisputable; incontrovertible; undeniable. No matter how hard I tried to find a good comeback for her argument, I couldn't think of one: her logic was *irrefutable*.

**irrelevant** ADJ. not applicable; unrelated. No matter how *irrelevant* the patient's mumblings may seem, they give us some indications of what is on his mind. *irrelevancy*, N.

**irremediable** ADJ. incurable; uncorrectable. The error she made was *irremediable*; she could see no way to repair it.

**irreparable** ADJ. not able to be corrected or repaired. Your apology cannot atone for the *irreparable* damage you have done to her reputation.

**irrepressible** ADJ. unable to be restrained or held back. My friend Kitty's curiosity was *irrepressible*; she poked her nose into everybody's business and just laughed when I warned her that curiosity killed the cat.

**irreproachable** ADJ. blameless; impeccable. Homer's conduct at the office party was *irreproachable*; even Marge had nothing bad to say about how he behaved.

■ **irresolute** ADJ. uncertain how to act; weak. Once you have made your decision, don't waver; a leader should never appear *irresolute*.

**irretrievable** ADJ. impossible to recover or regain; irreparable. The left fielder tried to retrieve the ball, but it flew over the fence, bounced off a wall, and fell into the sewer: it was *irretrievable*.

**irreverence** N. lack of proper respect. Some people in the audience were amused by the *irreverence* of the comedian's jokes about the Pope; others felt offended by his lack of respect for their faith. *irreverent*, ADJ.

**irrevocable** ADJ. unalterable; irreversible. As Sue dropped the "Dear John" letter into the mailbox, she suddenly had second thoughts and wanted to take it back, but she could not: her action was *irrevocable*.

**isotope** N. varying form of an element. The study of the *isotopes* of uranium led to the development of the nuclear bomb.

**isthmus** N. narrow neck of land connecting two larger bodies of land. In a magnificent feat of engineering, Goethals and his men cut through the *isthmus* of Panama in constructing the Panama Canal.

**itinerant** ADJ. wandering; traveling. He was an *itinerant* peddler and traveled through Pennsylvania and Virginia selling his wares. also N.

■ **itinerary** N. plan of a trip. Disliking sudden changes in plans when she traveled abroad, Ethel refused to make any alterations in her *itinerary*.

**jabber** V. chatter rapidly or unintelligibly. Why does the fellow insist on *jabbering* away in French when I can't understand a word he says?

**jaded** ADJ. fatigued; surfeited. He looked for exotic foods to stimulate his *jaded* appetite.

**jargon** *n.* language used by a special group; technical terminology; gibberish. The computer salesman at the store used a *jargon* of their own that we simply couldn't follow; we had no idea what they were jabbering about.

**jaundiced** *adj.* prejudiced (envious, hostile, or resentful); yellowed. Because Sue disliked Carolyn, she looked at Carolyn's paintings with a *jaundiced* eye, calling them formless smears. Newborn infants afflicted with *jaundice* look slightly yellow; they have *jaundiced* skin.

**jaunt** *n.* trip; short journey. He took a quick *jaunt* to Atlantic City.

**jaunty** *adj.* lighthearted; animated; easy and carefree. In *Singing in the Rain*, Gene Kelly sang and danced his way through the lighthearted title number in a properly *jaunty* style.

**jeopardize** *v.* endanger; imperil; put at risk. You can't give me a D in chemistry; you'll *jeopardize* my chances of being admitted to M.I.T. **jeopardy**, *n.*

**jettison** *v.* throw overboard. In order to enable the ship to ride safely through the storm, the captain had to *jettison* much of his cargo.

**jibe** *v.* agree; be in harmony with. Moe says Curly started the fight; Curly insists it was Moe. Their stories just don't *jibe*.

**jingoist** *n.* extremely aggressive and militant patriot; warlike chauvinist. Always bellowing "America first!" the congressman was such a *jingoist* you could almost hear the sabers rattling as he marched down the halls. **jingoism**, *n.*

**jocose** *adj.* given to joking. The salesman was so *jocose* that many of his customers suggested that he become a stand-up comic.

**jocular** *adj.* said or done in jest. Although Bill knew the boss hated jokes, he couldn't resist making one *jocular* remark; his *jocular* cost him the job.

**jocund** *adj.* merry. Santa Claus is always cheerful and *jocund*.

**jollity** *n.* gaiety; cheerfulness. The festive Christmas dinner was a merry one, and old and young alike joined in the general *jollity*.

**jostle** *v.* shove; bump. In the subway he was *jostled* by the crowds.

**jovial** *adj.* good-natured; merry. A frown seemed out of place on his invariably *jovial* face.

**jubilant** *n.* rejoicing. There was great *jubilant* when the armistice was announced.

**judicious** *adj.* sound in judgment; wise. At a key moment in his life, he made a *judicious* investment that was the foundation of his later wealth.

**juggernaut** *n.* irresistible crushing force. Nothing could survive in the path of the *juggernaut*.

**junction** *n.* crisis; joining point. At this critical *junction*, let us think carefully before determining the course we shall follow.

**junket** *n.* trip, especially one taken for pleasure by an official at public expense. Though she maintained she had gone abroad to collect firsthand data on the

Common Market, the opposition claimed that her trip was merely a political *junket*.

**junta** *n.* group of persons joined in political intrigue; cabal. As soon as he learned of its existence, the dictator ordered the execution of all of the members of the *junta*.

**jurisprudence** *n.* science of law. She was more a student of *jurisprudence* than a practitioner of the law.

**justification** *n.* good or just reason; defense; excuse. The jury found him guilty of the more serious charge because they could see no possible *justification* for his actions.

**juxtapose** *v.* place side by side. Comparison will be easier if you *juxtapose* the two objects.

**kaleidoscope** *n.* tube in which patterns made by the reflection in mirrors of colored pieces of glass, etc., produce interesting symmetrical effects. People found a new source of entertainment while peering through the *kaleidoscope*; they found the ever-changing patterns fascinating.

**ken** *n.* range of knowledge. I cannot answer your question since this matter is beyond my *ken*.

**kernel** *n.* central or vital part; whole seed (as of corn). "Watson, buried within this tissue of lies there is a *kernel* of truth; when I find it, the mystery will be solved."

**killjoy** *n.* grouch; spoilsport. At breakfast we had all been enjoying our bacon and eggs until that *killjoy* John started talking about how bad animal fats and cholesterol were for our health.

**kindle** *v.* start a fire; inspire. One of the first things Ben learned in the Boy Scouts was how to *kindle* a fire by rubbing two dry sticks together. Her teacher's praise for her poetry *kindled* a spark of hope inside Maya.

**kindred** *adj.* related; similar in nature or character. Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn were two *kindred* spirits. also *n.*

**kinetic** *adj.* producing motion. Designers of the electric automobile find that their greatest obstacle lies in the development of light and efficient storage batteries, the source of the *kinetic* energy needed to propel the vehicle.

**kismet** *n.* fate. *Kismet* is the Arabic word for "fate."

**kleptomaniac** *n.* person who has a compulsive desire to steal. They discovered that the wealthy customer was a *kleptomaniac* when they caught her stealing some cheap trinkets.

**knave** *n.* untrustworthy person; rogue; scoundrel. Any politician nicknamed Tricky Dick clearly has the reputation of a *knave*. **knavery**, *n.*

**knead** *v.* mix; work dough. Her hands grew strong from *kneading* bread.

**knell** *n.* tolling of a bell, especially to indicate a funeral, disaster, etc.; sound of the funeral bell. "The curfew tolls the *knell* of parting day." also *v.*

**knit** *v.* contract into wrinkles; grow together. Whenever David worries, his brow *knits* in a frown. When he broke his leg, he sat around the house all day waiting for the bones to *knit*.

**knoll** *n.* little, round hill. Robert Louis Stevenson's grave is on a *knoll* in Samoa; to reach the grave site, you must climb uphill and walk a short distance along a marked path.

**knotty** ADJ. intricate; difficult; tangled. What to Watson had been a *knotty* problem to Sherlock Holmes was simplicity itself.

**kudos** N. honor; glory; praise. The singer complacently received *kudos* on his performance from his entourage.

**labile** ADJ. likely to change; unstable. Because the hormonal changes they undergo affect their spirits, adolescents may become emotionally *labile* and experience sudden shifts of mood. *lability*, N.

**laborious** ADJ. demanding much work or care; tedious. In putting together his dictionary of the English language, Doctor Johnson undertook a *laborious* task.

**labyrinth** N. maze. Hiding from Indian Joe, Tom and Becky soon lost themselves in the *labyrinth* of secret underground caves.

**laceration** N. torn, ragged wound. The stock-car driver needed stitches to close the *lacerations* he received in the car crash. *lacerate*, V.

**lachrymose** ADJ. producing tears. His voice has a *lachrymose* quality that is more appropriate at a funeral than a class reunion.

**lackadaisical** ADJ. lacking purpose or zest; halfhearted; languid. Because Gatsby had his mind more on his love life than on his finances, he did a very *lackadaisical* job of managing his money.

**lackluster** ADJ. dull. We were disappointed by the *lackluster* performance.

■ **laconic** ADJ. brief and to the point. Many of the characters portrayed by Clint Eastwood are *laconic* types: strong men of few words.

**laggard** ADJ. slow; sluggish. The sailor had been taught not to be *laggard* in carrying out orders. *lag*, N., V.

## Test

### Word List 27 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

391. IRKSOME (A) interesting (B) lazy (C) tireless  
(D) devious (E) excessive

392. IRRELEVANT (A) lacking piety (B) fragile  
(C) congruent (D) pertinent (E) varied

393. IRREPARABLE (A) legible (B) correctable  
(C) proverbial (D) concise (E) legal

394. IRREVERENT (A) related (B) mischievous  
(C) respective (D) pious (E) violent

395. JADED (A) upright (B) stimulated (C) aspiring  
(D) applied (E) void

396. JAUNDICED (A) whitened (B) inflamed  
(C) quickened (D) aged (E) unbiased

397. JAUNTY (A) youthful (B) ruddy (C) strong  
(D) untraveled (E) sedate

398. JEOPARDY (A) patience (B) courage (C) safety  
(D) willingness (E) liberty

399. JETTISON (A) salvage (B) submerge (C) descend  
(D) decelerate (E) repent

400. JOCLULAR (A) arterial (B) bloodless (C) verbose  
(D) serious (E) blind

401. JUDICIOUS (A) punitive (B) unwise (C) criminal  
(D) licit (E) temporary

402. KINDLE (A) dislike (B) quench (C) gather  
(D) sparkle (E) estrange

403. LACHRYMOSE (A) cheering (B) smooth  
(C) passionate (D) curt (E) tense

404. LACKADAISICAL (A) monthly (B) possessing time  
(C) ambitious (D) pusillanimous (E) intelligent

405. LACONIC (A) milky (B) verbose (C) wicked  
(D) flagrant (E) derelict

### Word List 28 lagoon-loquacious

**lagoon** N. shallow body of water near a sea; lake. They enjoyed their swim in the calm *lagoon*.

**laity** N. laypersons; persons not connected with the clergy. The *laity* does not always understand the clergy's problems.

**lambaste** V. beat; thrash verbally or physically. It was painful to watch the champion *lambaste* his opponent, tearing into him mercilessly.

**lament** V. grieve; express sorrow. Even advocates of the war *lamented* the loss of so many lives in combat. *lamentation*, N.

**lampoon** V. ridicule. This article *lampoons* the pretensions of some movie moguls. also N.

**lancet** N. small surgical tool for making incisions. With the sharp tip of her *lancet*, Doctor Wheeler cut into the abscess, opening it to let it drain.

**languid** ADJ. weary; sluggish; listless. Her siege of illness left her *languid* and pallid.

**languish** V. lose animation or strength. Left at Miss Minchin's school for girls while her father went off to war, Sarah Crewe refused to *languish*; instead, she hid her grief and actively befriended her less fortunate classmates.

**languor** N. lassitude; depression. His friends tried to overcome the *languor* into which he had fallen by taking him to parties and to the theater.

**lank** ADJ. long and thin. *Lank*, gaunt, Abraham Lincoln was a striking figure.

**lap** V. take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently. The kitten neatly *lapped* up her milk. The waves softly *lapped* against the pier.

**larceny** N. theft. Because of the prisoner's record, the district attorney refused to reduce the charge from grand *larceny* to petty *larceny*.

**larder** N. pantry; place where food is kept. The first thing Bill did on returning home from school was to check what snacks his mother had in the *larder*.

**largess** N. generous gift. Lady Bountiful distributed *largess* to the poor.

**lascivious** ADJ. lustful. Because they might arouse *lascivious* impulses in their readers, the lewd books were banned by the clergy.

■ **lassitude** N. languor; weariness. After a massage and a long soak in the hot tub, I surrendered to my growing *lassitude* and lay down for a nap.

■ **latent** ADJ. potential but undeveloped; dormant; hidden. Polaroid pictures are popular at parties because you can see the *latent* photographic image gradually appear before your eyes. *latency*, N.

**lateral** ADJ. coming from the side. In order to get good plant growth, the gardener must pinch off all *lateral* shoots.

**latitude** N. freedom from narrow limitations. I think you have permitted your son too much *latitude* in this matter.

■ **laud** V. praise. The NFL *lauded* Boomer Esiason's efforts to raise money to combat cystic fibrosis. also N. *laudable*, *laudatory*, ADJ.

**lavish** ADJ. liberal; wasteful. The actor's *lavish* gifts pleased her. also V.

**lax** ADJ. careless. We dislike restaurants where the service is *lax* and inattentive.

**leaven** V. cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven. As bread dough is *leavened*, it puffs up, expanding in volume.

**lechery** N. gross lewdness; lustfulness. In his youth he led a life of *lechery* and debauchery; he did not mend his ways until middle age. *lecherous*, ADJ.

**lectern** N. reading desk. The chaplain delivered his sermon from a hastily improvised *lectern*.

**leery** ADJ. suspicious; cautious. Don't eat the sushi at this restaurant; I'm a bit *leery* about how fresh it is.

**leeway** N. room to move; margin. When you set a deadline, allow a little *leeway*.

**legacy** N. a gift made by a will. Part of my *legacy* from my parents is an album of family photographs.

**legend** N. explanatory list of symbols on a map. The *legend* at the bottom of the map made it clear which symbols stood for rest areas along the highway and which stood for public camp sites. (secondary meaning)

**legerdemain** N. sleight of hand. The magician demonstrated his renowned *legerdemain*.

**leniency** N. mildness; permissiveness. Considering the gravity of the offense, we were surprised by the *leniency* of the sentence. *lenient*, ADJ.

**leonine** ADJ. like a lion. He was *leonine* in his rage.

**lethal** ADJ. deadly. It is unwise to leave *lethal* weapons where children may find them.

■ **lethargic** ADJ. drowsy; dull. The stuffy room made her *lethargic*; she felt as if she was about to nod off. *lethargy*, N.

■ **levee** N. earthen or stone embankment to prevent flooding. As the river rose and threatened to overflow the *levee*, emergency workers rushed to reinforce the walls with sandbags.

**levitate** V. float in the air (especially by magical means). As the magician passed his hands over the recumbent body of his assistant, she appeared to rise and *levitate* about three feet above the table.

■ **levity** N. lack of seriousness or steadiness; *frivolity*. Stop giggling and wriggling around in the pew: such *levity* is improper in church.

**levy** V. impose (a fine); collect (a payment). Crying "No taxation without representation!" the colonists demonstrated against England's power to *levy* taxes. also N.

**lewd** ADJ. lustful. They found his *lewd* stories objectionable.

**lexicographer** N. compiler of a dictionary. The new dictionary is the work of many *lexicographers* who spent years compiling and editing the work.

**lexicon** N. dictionary. I cannot find this word in any *lexicon* in the library.

**liability** N. drawback; debts. Her lack of an extensive vocabulary was a *liability* that she was able to overcome.

**liaison** N. contact that keeps parties in communication; go-between; secret love affair. As the *liaison* between the American and British forces during World War II, the colonel had to ease tensions between the leaders of the two armies. Romeo's romantic *liaison* with Juliet ended in tragedy. also ADJ.

**libel** N. defamatory statement; act of writing something that smears a person's character. If Batman wrote that the Joker was a dirty, rotten, mass-murdering criminal, could the Joker sue Batman for *libel*? *libelous*, ADJ.

**libertine** N. debauched person, roué. Although she was aware of his reputation as a *libertine*, she felt she could reform him and help him abandon his dissolute way of life.

**libidinous** ADJ. lustful. They objected to his *libidinous* behavior.

**libido** N. emotional urges behind human activity. The psychiatrist maintained that suppression of the *libido* often resulted in maladjustment and neuroses.



**libretto** *n.* text of an opera. The composer of an opera's music is remembered more frequently than the author of its *libretto*.

**licentious** *ADJ.* amoral; lewd and lascivious; unrestrained. Unscrupulously seducing the daughter of his host, Don Juan felt no qualms about the immorality of his *licentious* behavior.

**lien** *n.* legal claim on a property. There was a delay before Ralph could take possession of his late uncle's home; apparently, another claimant had a *lien* upon the estate.

**ligneous** *ADJ.* like wood. Petrified wood may be *ligneous* in appearance, but it is stonelike in composition.

**lilliputian** *ADJ.* extremely small. Tiny and delicate, the model was built on a *lilliputian* scale. also *n.*

**limber** *ADJ.* flexible. Hours of ballet classes kept him *limber*.

**limbo** *n.* region near heaven or hell where certain souls are kept; a prison (slang). Among the divisions of Hell are Purgatory and *Limbo*.

**limn** *v.* draw; outline; describe. Paradoxically, the more realistic the details this artist chooses, the better able she is to *limn* her fantastic, other-worldly landscapes.

**limpid** *ADJ.* clear. A *limpid* stream ran through his property.

**lineage** *n.* descent; ancestry. He traced his *lineage* back to *Mayflower* days.

**lineaments** *n.* features, especially of the face. She quickly sketched the *lineaments* of his face.

**linger** *v.* loiter or dawdle; continue or persist. Hoping to see Juliet pass by, Romeo *lingered* outside the Capulet house for hours. Though Mother made stuffed cabbage on Monday, the smell *lingered* around the house for days.

**linguistic** *ADJ.* pertaining to language. The modern tourist will encounter very little *linguistic* difficulty as English has become an almost universal language.

**lionize** *v.* treat as a celebrity. She enjoyed being *lionized* and adored by the public.

**liquidate** *v.* settle accounts; clear up. He was able to *liquidate* all his debts in a short period of time.

**list** *v.* tilt; lean over. That flagpole should be absolutely vertical; instead, it *lists* to one side. (secondary meaning) also *n.*

**listless** *ADJ.* lacking in spirit or energy. We had expected her to be full of enthusiasm and were surprised by her *listless* attitude.

**litany** *n.* supplicatory prayer. On this solemn day, the congregation responded to the prayers of the priest during the *litany* with fervor and intensity.

**lithe** *ADJ.* flexible; supple. Her figure was *lithe* and willowy.

**litigation** *n.* lawsuit. Try to settle this amicably; I do not want to start *litigation*. litigant, *n.*

**litotes** *n.* understatement for emphasis. To say, "He little realizes," when we mean that he does not realize at all, is an example of the kind of understatement we call *litotes*.

**livid** *ADJ.* lead-colored; black and blue; ashen; enraged. His face was so *livid* with rage that we were afraid that he might have an attack of apoplexy.

**loath** *ADJ.* reluctant; disinclined. Romeo and Juliet were both *loath* for him to go.

**loathe** *v.* detest. Booming and hissing, the audience showed how much they *loathed* the villain. loathsome, *ADJ.*

**lode** *n.* metal-bearing vein. If this *lode* that we have discovered extends for any distance, we have found a fortune.

**lofty** *ADJ.* very high. Though Barbara Jordan's fellow students used to tease her about her *lofty* ambitions, she rose to hold one of the highest positions in the land.

■ **log** *n.* record of a voyage or flight; record of day-to-day activities. "Flogged two seamen today for insubordination," wrote Captain Bligh in the *Bounty's log*. To see how much work I've accomplished recently, just take a look at the number of new files listed on my computer *log*. also *v.*

**loiter** *v.* hang around; linger. The policeman told him not to *loiter* in the alley.

**loll** *v.* lounge about. They *loll*ed around in their chairs watching television.

**longevity** *n.* long life. When he reached ninety, the old man was proud of his *longevity*.

**loom** *v.* appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged or distorted form). The shadow of the gallows *loomed* threateningly above the small boy.

**lope** *v.* gallop slowly. As the horses *loped* along, we had an opportunity to admire the ever-changing scenery.

■ **loquacious** *ADJ.* talkative. Though our daughter barely says a word to us these days, put a phone in her hand and see how *loquacious* she can be: our phone bills are out of sight! loquacity, *n.*

## Test

### Word List 28      Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

406. LAMPOON (A) darken (B) praise (C) abandon (D) sail (E) fly
407. LANGUOR (A) vitality (B) length (C) embarrassment (D) wine (E) avarice

408. LATENT (A) trim (B) forbidding (C) execrable (D) early (E) obvious
409. LAVISH (A) hostile (B) unwashed (C) timely (D) decent (E) frugal
410. LAUDATORY (A) dirtying (B) disclaiming (C) defamatory (D) inflammatory (E) debased
411. LAX (A) salty (B) strict (C) shrill (D) boring (E) cowardly
412. LECHERY (A) trust (B) compulsion (C) zeal (D) addiction (E) purity
413. LETHARGIC (A) convalescent (B) beautiful (C) enervating (D) invigorating (E) interrogating
414. LEVITY (A) bridge (B) dam (C) praise (D) blame (E) solemnity
415. LILLIPUTIAN (A) destructive (B) proper (C) gigantic (D) elegant (E) barren
416. LIMPID (A) erect (B) turbid (C) tangential (D) timid (E) weary
417. LITHE (A) stiff (B) limpid (C) facetious (D) insipid (E) vast
418. LIVID (A) alive (B) mundane (C) positive (D) undiscolored (E) vast
419. LOATH (A) loose (B) evident (C) deliberate (D) eager (E) tiny
420. LOQUACIOUS (A) taciturn (B) sentimental (C) soporific (D) soothing (E) sedate

## Word List 29 lout-maul

**lout** *n.* clumsy person. The delivery boy is an awkward *lout*. *loutish*, *adj.*

**low** *v.* moo. From the hilltop, they could see the herd like ants in the distance; they could barely hear the cattle *low*.

■ **lucid** *adj.* easily understood; clear; intelligible. Lexy makes an excellent teacher; her explanations of technical points are *lucid* enough for a child to grasp. *lucidity*, *n.*

**lucrative** *adj.* profitable. He turned his hobby into a *lucrative* profession.

**lucre** *n.* money. Preferring *lucre* to undying fame, he wrote stories of popular appeal.

**ludicrous** *adj.* laughable; trifling. Let us be serious; this is not a *ludicrous* issue.

**lugubrious** *adj.* mournful. The *lugubrious* howling of the dogs added to our sadness.

**lull** *n.* moment of calm. Not wanting to get wet, they waited under the awning for a *lull* in the rain.

**lumber** *v.* move heavily or clumsily. Still somewhat torpid after its long hibernation, the bear *lumbered* through the woods.

**lumen** *n.* unit of light energy (one candle's worth). In buying light bulbs, she checked not only their power, as measured in watts, but their brightness, as measured in *lumens*.

**luminary** *n.* celebrity; dignitary. A leading light of the American stage, Ethel Barrymore was a theatrical *luminary* whose name lives on.

■ **luminous** *adj.* shining; issuing light. The sun is a *luminous* body.

**lunar** *adj.* pertaining to the moon. *Lunar* craters can be plainly seen with the aid of a small telescope.

**lunge** *v.* make a quick forward dive or reach; thrust. The wide receiver *lunged* forward to grab the football. With his sword, D'Artagnan *lunged* at his adversary. also *n.*

**lurid** *adj.* wild; sensational; graphic; gruesome. Do the *lurid* cover stories in the *Enquirer* actually influence people to buy that trashy tabloid?

**lurk** *v.* stealthily lie in waiting; slink; exist unperceived. "Who knows what evils *lurk* in the hearts of men? The Shadow knows."

**luscious** *adj.* pleasing to taste or smell. The ripe peach was *luscious*.

**luster** *n.* shine; gloss. The soft *luster* of the silk in the dim light was pleasing.

**lustrous** *adj.* shining. Her large and *lustrous* eyes gave a touch of beauty to an otherwise drab face.

**luxuriant** *adj.* abundant; rich and splendid; fertile. Lady Godiva was completely covered by her *luxuriant* hair.

**macabre** *adj.* gruesome; grisly. The city morgue is a *macabre* spot for the uninitiated.

**mace** *n.* ceremonial staff; clublike medieval weapon. The Grand Marshal of the parade raised his *mace* to signal that it was time for the procession to begin.

**macerate** *v.* soften by soaking in liquid; waste away. The strawberries had been soaking in the champagne for so long that they had begun to *macerate*; they literally fell apart at the touch of a spoon.

**Machiavellian** *adj.* crafty; double-dealing. I do not think he will be a good ambassador because he is not accustomed to the *Machiavellian* maneuverings of foreign diplomats.

**machinations** *n.* evil schemes or plots. Fortunately, Batman saw through the wily *machinations* of the Riddler and saved Gotham City from destruction by the forces of evil.

**maculated** *adj.* spotted; stained. Instead of writing that Gorbachev had a birthmark on his forehead, the pompous young poet sang of the former premier's *maculated* brow.

**madrigal** *n.* pastoral song. Her program of folk songs included several *madrigals* that she sang to the accompaniment of a lute.

**maelstrom** *n.* whirlpool. The canoe was tossed about in the *maelstrom*.

**magisterial** ADJ. authoritative; imperious. The learned doctor laid down the law to his patient in a *magisterial* tone of voice.

■ **magnanimity** N. generosity. Noted for his magnanimity, philanthropist Eugene Lang donated millions to charity.  
**magnanimous** ADJ.

**magnate** N. person of prominence or influence. Growing up in Pittsburgh, Annie Dillard was surrounded by the mansions of the great steel and coal *magnates* who set their mark on that city.

**magniloquent** ADJ. boastful, pompous. In their stories of the trial, the reporters ridiculed the *magniloquent* speeches of the defense attorney.

**magnitude** N. greatness; extent. It is difficult to comprehend the *magnitude* of his crime.

**malm** V. mutilate; injure. The hospital could not take care of all who had been mangled or *maimed* in the railroad accident.

**maladroit** ADJ. clumsy; bungling. "Oh! My stupid tongue!" exclaimed Jane, embarrassed at having said anything so *maladroit*.

**malady** N. illness. A mysterious *malady* swept the country, filling doctors' offices with feverish, purple-spotted patients.

**malaise** N. uneasiness; vague feeling of ill health. Feeling slightly queasy before going onstage, Carol realized that this touch of *malaise* was merely stage fright.

**malapropism** N. comic misuse of a word. When Mrs. Malaprop criticizes Lydia for being "as headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile," she confuses "allegory" and "alligator" in a typical *malapropism*.

**malcontent** N. person dissatisfied with existing state of affairs. He was one of the few *malcontents* in Congress; he constantly voiced his objections to the presidential program, also ADJ.

**malediction** N. curse. When the magic mirror revealed that Snow White was still alive, the wicked queen cried out in rage and uttered dreadful *maledictions*.

**malefactor** N. evildoer; criminal. Mighty Mouse will save the day, hunting down *malefactors* and rescuing innocent mice from peril.

**malevolent** ADJ. wishing evil. Iago is a *malevolent* villain who takes pleasure in ruining Othello. *malevolence*, N.

**malfeasance** N. wrongdoing. The authorities did not discover the campaign manager's *malfeasance* until after he had spent most of the money he had embezzled.

**malicious** ADJ. hateful; spiteful. Jealous of Cinderella's beauty, her *malicious* stepsisters expressed their spite by forcing her to do menial tasks. *malice*, N.

**malign** V. speak evil of; bad-mouth; defame. Putting her hands over her ears, Rose refused to listen to Betty *malign* her friend Susan.

**malignant** ADJ. injurious; tending to cause death; aggressively malevolent. Though many tumors are benign, some are *malignant*, growing out of control and endangering the life of the patient. *malignancy*, N.

■ **malingering** N. one who feigns illness to escape duty. The captain ordered the sergeant to punish all *malingerers* and force them to work. *malingering*, V.

■ **malleable** ADJ. capable of being shaped by pounding; impressionable. Gold is a *malleable* metal, easily shaped into bracelets and rings. Fagin hoped Oliver was a *malleable* lad, easily shaped into a thief.

**malodorous** ADJ. foul-smelling. The compost heap was most *malodorous* in summer.

**mammal** N. vertebrate animal whose female suckles its young. Many people regard the whale as a fish and do not realize that it is a *mammal*.

**mammoth** ADJ. gigantic; enormous. To try to memorize every word on this vocabulary list would be a *mammoth* undertaking; take on projects that are more manageable in size.

**manacle** V. restrain; handcuff. The police immediately *manacled* the prisoner so he could not escape. also N.

**mandate** N. order; charge. In his inaugural address, the president stated that he had a *mandate* from the people to seek an end to social evils such as poverty and poor housing. also V.

**mandatory** ADJ. obligatory. These instructions are *mandatory*; any violation will be severely punished.

**mangy** ADJ. shabby; wretched. We finally threw out the *mangy* rug that the dog had destroyed.

**maniacal** ADJ. raging mad; insane. Though Mr. Rochester had locked his *mad* wife in the attic, he could still hear her *maniacal* laughter echoing throughout the house. *maniac*, N.

**manifest** ADJ. evident; visible; obvious. Digby's embarrassment when he met Madonna was *manifest*: his ears turned bright pink, he kept scuffing one shoe in the dirt, and he couldn't look her in the eye.

**manifestation** N. outward demonstration; indication. Mozart's early attraction to the harpsichord was the first *manifestation* of his pronounced musical bent.

**manifesto** N. declaration; statement of policy. The *Communist Manifesto* by Marx and Engels proclaimed the principles of modern communism.

**manifold** ADJ. numerous; varied. I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate your *manifold* kindnesses.

**manipulate** V. operate with one's hands; control or play upon (people, forces, etc.) artfully. Jim Henson understood how to *manipulate* the Muppets. Madonna understands how to *manipulate* publicity (and men).

**mannered** ADJ. affected; not natural. Attempting to copy the style of his wealthy neighbors, Gatsby adopted a *mannered*, artificial way of speech.

**manumit** V. emancipate; free from bondage. Enlightened slave owners were willing to *manumit* their slaves and thus put an end to the evil of slavery in the country.

**marital** ADJ. pertaining to marriage. After the publication of his book on *marital* affairs, he was often consulted by married people on the verge of divorce.

**maritime** ADJ. bordering on the sea; nautical. The *Maritime* Provinces depend on the sea for their wealth.

**marked** ADJ. noticeable; targeted for vengeance. He walked with a *marked* limp, a souvenir of an old IRA attack. As British ambassador, he knew he was a *marked* man.

**marred** ADJ. damaged; disfigured. She had to refinish the *marred* surface of the table. *mar*, v.

**marshal** v. put in order. At a debate tournament, extemporaneous speakers have only a minute or two to *marshal* their thoughts before addressing their audience.

**marsupial** N. one of a family of mammals that nurse their offspring in a pouch. The most common *marsupial* in North America is the opossum.

**martial** ADJ. warlike. The sound of *martial* music inspired the young cadet with dreams of military glory.

**martinet** N. No talking at meals! No mingling with the servants! Miss Minchin was a *martinet* who insisted that the schoolgirls in her charge observe each regulation to the letter.

**martyr** N. one who voluntarily suffers death for his or her religion or cause; great sufferer. By burning her at the stake, the English made Joan of Arc a *martyr* for her faith. Mother played the *martyr* by staying home to clean the house while the rest of the family went off to the beach.

**masochist** N. person who enjoys his own pain. The *masochist* begs, "Hit me." The sadist smiles and says, "I won't."

**masticate** v. chew. We must *masticate* our food carefully and slowly in order to avoid digestive disorders.

**materialism** N. preoccupation with physical comforts and things. By its nature, *materialism* is opposed to idealism; for where the *materialist* emphasizes the needs of the body, the idealist emphasizes the needs of the soul.

**maternal** ADJ. motherly. Many animals display *maternal* instincts only while their offspring are young and helpless. *maternity*, N.

**matriarch** N. woman who rules a family or larger social group. The *matriarch* ruled her gypsy tribe with a firm hand.

**matriculate** v. enroll (in college or graduate school). Incoming students formally *matriculate* at our college in a special ceremony during which they sign the official register of students.

**matrix** N. point of origin; array of numbers or algebraic symbols; mold or die. Some historians claim the Nile Valley was the *matrix* of Western civilization.

**maudlin** ADJ. effusively sentimental. Whenever a particularly *maudlin* tearjerker was playing at the movies, Marvin would embarrass himself by weeping copiously.

**maul** v. handle roughly. The rock star was *mauled* by his overexcited fans.

## Test

### Word List 29 *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar to or opposite of the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

421. LUGUBRIOUS (A) frantic (B) cheerful (C) burdensome (D) oily (E) militant
422. LURID (A) dull (B) duplicate (C) heavy (D) painstaking (E) intelligent
423. MACABRE (A) musical (B) frightening (C) chewed (D) wicked (E) exceptional
424. MAGNILOQUENT (A) loquacious (B) bombastic (C) rudimentary (D) qualitative (E) minimizing
425. MAGNITUDE (A) realization (B) fascination (C) enormity (D) gratitude (E) interference
426. MALADROIT (A) malicious (B) starving (C) thirsty (D) tactless (E) artistic
427. MALEDICTION (A) misfortune (B) hap (C) fruition (D) correct pronunciation (E) benediction
428. MALEFACTOR (A) quali (B) lawbreaker (C) beneficiary (D) banker (E) female agent
429. MALEVOLENT (A) kindly (B) vacuous (C) ambivalent (D) volatile (E) primitive
430. MALIGN (A) intersperse (B) vary (C) emphasize (D) frighten (E) eulogize
431. MALLEABLE (A) brittle (B) blatant (C) brilliant (D) brownish (E) basking
432. MANIACAL (A) demoniac (B) saturated (C) sane (D) sanitary (E) handcuffed
433. MANIFEST (A) limited (B) obscure (C) faulty (D) varied (E) vital
434. MANUMIT (A) print (B) impress (C) enslave (D) endeavor (E) fail
435. MARTIAL (A) bellicose (B) celibate (C) divorced (D) quiescent (E) planetary

## Word List 30      mausoleum-misnomer

**mausoleum** *n.* monumental tomb. His body was placed in the family *mausoleum*.

**mauve** *adj.* pale purple. The *mauve* tint in the lilac bush was another indication that spring had finally arrived.

■ **maverick** *n.* rebel; nonconformist. To the masculine literary establishment, George Sand with her insistence on wearing trousers and smoking cigars was clearly a *maverick* who fought her proper womanly role.

**mawkish** *adj.* mushy and gushy; icky-sticky sentimental; maudlin. Whenever Gigi and her boyfriend would sigh and get all lovey-dovey, her little brother would shout, "Yuck!" protesting their *mawkish* behavior.

**maxim** *n.* proverb; a truth pithily stated. Aesop's fables illustrate moral *maxims*.

**mayhem** *n.* injury to body. The riot was marked not only by *mayhem*, with its attendant loss of life and limb, but also by arson and pillage.

**meager** *adj.* scanty; inadequate. Still hungry after his *meager* serving of porridge, Oliver Twist asked for a second helping.

**mealymouthed** *adj.* indirect in speech; hypocritical; evasive. Rather than tell Jill directly what he disliked, Jack made a few *mealymouthed* comments and tried to change the subject.

**meander** *v.* wind or turn in its course. Needing to stay close to a source of water, he followed every twist and turn of the stream as it *meandered* through the countryside.

**meddlesome** *adj.* interfering. He felt his marriage was suffering because of his *meddlesome* mother-in-law.

**mediate** *v.* settle a dispute through the services of an outsider. King Solomon was asked to *mediate* a dispute between two women, each of whom claimed to be the mother of the same child.

**mediocre** *adj.* ordinary; commonplace. We were disappointed because he gave a rather *mediocre* performance in this role.

**meditation** *n.* reflection; thought. She reached her decision only after much *meditation*.

**medium** *n.* element that is a creature's natural environment; nutrient setting in which microorganisms are cultivated. We watched the dolphins sporting in the sea and marveled at their grace in their proper *medium*. The bacteriologist carefully observed the microorganisms' rapid growth in the culture *medium*.

**medium** *n.* appropriate occupation or means of expression; channel of communication; compromise. Film was Anna's *medium*; she expressed herself through her cinematography. However, she never watched television, claiming she despised the *medium*. For Anna, it was all or nothing: she could never strike a happy *medium*.

**medley** *n.* mixture. To avoid boring dancers by playing any one tune for too long, bands may combine three or four tunes into a *medley*.

**meek** *adj.* submissive; patient and long-suffering. Mr. Barrett never expected his *meek* daughter would dare to defy him by eloping with her suitor.

**megomania** *n.* mania for doing grandiose things. Developers who spend millions trying to build the world's tallest skyscraper suffer from *megomania*.

**melancholy** *adj.* gloomy; morose; blue. To Eugene, stuck in his small town, a train whistle was a *melancholy* sound, for it made him think of all the places he would never get to see.

**melee** *n.* fight. The captain tried to ascertain the cause of the *melee* that had broken out among the crew members.

**mellifluous** *adj.* sweetly or smoothly flowing; melodious. Italian is a *mellifluous* language, especially suited to being sung.

**memento** *n.* token; reminder. Take this book as a *memento* of your visit.

**memorialize** *v.* commemorate. Let us *memorialize* his great contribution by dedicating this library in his honor.

**menagerie** *n.* collection of wild animals. Whenever the children run wild around the house, Mom shouts, "Calm down! I'm not running a *menagerie*!"

■ **mendacious** *adj.* lying; habitually dishonest. Distrusting Huck from the start, Miss Watson assumed he was *mendacious* and refused to believe a word he said. *mendacity*, *n.*

**mendicant** *n.* beggar. "O noble sir, give alms to the poor," cried Aladdin, playing the *mendicant*. *mendicancy*, *n.*

**menial** *adj.* suitable for servants; lowly; mean. Her wicked stepmother forced Cinderella to do *menial* tasks around the house while her ugly stepsisters lolled around painting their toenails. also *n.*

**mentor** *n.* counselor; teacher. During this very trying period, she could not have had a better *mentor*, for the teacher was sympathetic and understanding.

**mercantile** *adj.* concerning trade. I am more interested in the opportunities available in the *mercantile* field than I am in those in the legal profession.

**mercenary** *adj.* motivated solely by money or gain. "I'm not in this war because I get my kicks waving flags," said the *mercenary* soldier. "I'm in it for the dough." also *n.*

**mercurial** *adj.* capricious; changing; fickle. Quick as quicksilver to change, he was *mercurial* in nature and therefore unreliable.

**meretricious** *adj.* flashy; tawdry. Her jewels were inexpensive but not *meretricious*.

**merger** *n.* combination (of two business corporations). When the firm's president married the director of financial planning, the office joke was that it wasn't a marriage, it was a *merger*.

**mesmerize** *v.* hypnotize. The incessant drone seemed to *mesmerize* him and place him in a trance.

**metallurgical** *adj.* pertaining to the art of removing metals from ores. During the course of his *metallurgical* research, the scientist developed a steel alloy of tremendous strength.

■ **metamorphosis** *N.* change of form. The *metamorphosis* of caterpillar to butterfly is typical of many such changes in animal life. *metamorphose*, *v.*

**metaphor** *N.* implied comparison. "He soared like an eagle" is an example of a simile; "He is an eagle in flight," a *metaphor*.

**metaphysical** *ADJ.* pertaining to speculative philosophy. The modern poets have gone back to the fanciful poems of the *metaphysical* poets of the seventeenth century for many of their images. *metaphysics*, *N.*

**mete** *v.* measure; distribute. He tried to be impartial in his efforts to *mete* out justice.

**meteoric** *ADJ.* swift; momentarily brilliant. We all wondered at his *meteoric* rise to fame.

**methodical** *ADJ.* systematic. An accountant must be *methodical* and maintain order among his financial records.

■ **meticulous** *ADJ.* excessively careful; painstaking; scrupulous. Martha Stewart was a *meticulous* housekeeper, fussing about each and every detail that went into making up her perfect home.

**metropolis** *N.* large city. Every evening this terminal is filled with the thousands of commuters who are going from this *metropolis* to their homes in the suburbs.

**mettle** *N.* courage; spirit. When challenged by the other horses in the race, the thoroughbred proved its *mettle* by its determination to hold the lead. *mettlesome*, *ADJ.*

**miasma** *N.* swamp gas; heavy, vaporous atmosphere, often emanating from decaying matter; pervasive corrupting influence. The smog hung over Victorian London like a dark cloud; noisome, reeking of decay, it was a visible *miasma*.

**microcosm** *N.* small world; the world in miniature. The village community that Jane Austen depicts serves as a *microcosm* of English society in her time, for in this small world we see all the social classes meeting and mingling.

**migrant** *ADJ.* changing its habitat; wandering. These *migrant* birds return every spring. also *N.*

**migratory** *ADJ.* wandering. The return of the *migratory* birds to the northern sections of this country is a harbinger of spring.

**milieu** *N.* environment; means of expression. Surrounded by smooth preppies and arty bohemians, the country boy from Smalltown, USA, felt out of his *milieu*. Although he has produced excellent oil paintings and lithographs, his proper *milieu* is watercolor.

**militant** *ADJ.* combative; bellicose. Although at this time he was advocating a policy of neutrality, one could usually find him adopting a more *militant* attitude. also *N.*

**millitate** *v.* work against. Your record of lateness and absence will *millitate* against your chances of promotion.

**millennium** *N.* thousand-year period; period of happiness and prosperity. I do not expect the *millennium* to come during my lifetime.

**mimicry** *N.* imitation. Her gift for *mimicry* was so great that her friends said that she should be in the theater.

**minatory** *ADJ.* menacing; threatening. Jabbing a *minatory* forefinger at Dorothy, the Wicked Witch cried, "I'll get you, and your little dog, too!"

**mincing** *ADJ.* affectedly dainty. Yum-Yum walked across the stage with *mincing* steps.

**minion** *N.* a servile dependent. He was always accompanied by several of his *minions* because he enjoyed their subservience and flattery.

**minuscule** *ADJ.* extremely small. Why should I involve myself with a project with so *minuscule* a chance for success?

**minute** *ADJ.* extremely small. The twins resembled one another closely; only *minute* differences set them apart.

**minutiae** *N.* petty details. She would have liked to ignore the *minutiae* of daily living.

**mirage** *N.* unreal reflection; optical illusion. The lost prospector was fooled by a *mirage* in the desert.

**mire** *v.* entangle; stick in swampy ground. Their rear wheels became *mired* in mud. also *N.*

**mirth** *N.* merriment; laughter. Sober Malvolio found Sir Toby's *mirth* improper.

**misadventure** *N.* mischance; ill luck. The young explorer met death by *misadventure*.

■ **misanthrope** *N.* one who hates mankind. In *Gulliver's Travels*, Swift portrays human beings as vile, degraded beasts; for this reason, various critics consider him a *misanthrope*. *misanthropic*, *ADJ.*

**misapprehension** *N.* error; misunderstanding. To avoid *misapprehension*, I am going to ask all of you to repeat the instructions I have given.

**miscellany** *N.* mixture of writings on various subjects. This is an interesting *miscellany* of nineteenth-century prose and poetry.

**mischance** *N.* ill luck. By *mischance*, he lost his week's salary.

**misconstrue** *v.* interpret incorrectly; misjudge. She took the passage seriously rather than humorously because she *misconstrued* the author's ironic tone.

**miscreant** *N.* wretch; villain. His kindness to the *miscreant* amazed all of us who had expected to hear severe punishment pronounced.

**misdeemeanor** *N.* minor crime. The culprit pleaded guilty to a *misdeemeanor* rather than face trial for a felony.

**miserly** *ADJ.* stingy; mean. Transformed by his vision on Christmas Eve, mean old Scrooge ceased being *miserly* and became a generous, kind old man. *miser*, *N.*

**misgivings** *N.* doubts. Hamlet described his *misgivings* to Horatio but decided to fence with Laertes despite his foreboding of evil.

**mishap** *N.* accident. With a little care you could have avoided this *mishap*.

**misnomer** *N.* wrong name; incorrect designation. His tyrannical conduct proved to all that his nickname, King Eric the Just, was a *misnomer*.



## Test

Word List 30      *Synonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

436. MAWKISH (A) sentimental (B) true (C) certain (D) devious (E) carefree
437. MEDIOCRE (A) average (B) bitter (C) medieval (D) industrial (E) agricultural
438. MELEE (A) heat (B) brawl (C) attempt (D) weapon (E) choice
439. MELLIFLUOUS (A) porous (B) honeycombed (C) strong (D) smooth (E) viscous
440. MENIAL (A) intellectual (B) clairvoyant (C) servile (D) arrogant (E) laudatory
441. MENTOR (A) guide (B) genius (C) talker (D) philosopher (E) stylist
442. MESMERIZE (A) remember (B) hypnotize (C) delay (D) bore (E) analyze
443. METICULOUS (A) steadfast (B) recent (C) quaint (D) painstaking (E) overt
444. MIASMA (A) dream (B) noxious fumes (C) scenario (D) quantity (E) total
445. MILITANT (A) combative (B) dramatic (C) religious (D) quaint (E) paternal
446. MINION (A) monster (B) quorum (C) majority (D) host (E) dependent
447. MIRAGE (A) dessert (B) illusion (C) water (D) mirror (E) statement
448. MISANTHROPE (A) benefactor (B) philanderer (C) man-hater (D) aesthete (E) epicure
449. MISCHANCE (A) gamble (B) ordinance (C) aperture (D) anecdote (E) adversity
450. MISDEMEANOR (A) felony (B) peccadillo (C) indignity (D) fiat (E) illiteracy

Word List 31      *misogamy-nascent*

**misogamy** *n.* hatred of marriage. He remained a bachelor not because of misogamy but because of ill fate; his fiancée died before the wedding.

**misogynist** *n.* hater of women. She accused him of being a misogynist because he had been a bachelor all his life.

**missile** *n.* object to be thrown or projected. After carefully folding his book report into a paper airplane, Beavis threw the missile across the classroom at Butthead. Rocket scientists are building guided missiles; Beavis and Butthead can barely make unguided ones.

**missive** *n.* letter. The ambassador received a missive from the Secretary of State.

**mite** *n.* very small object or creature; small coin. Gnats are annoying mites that sting.

■ **mitigate** *v.* appease; moderate. Nothing Jason did could mitigate Medea's anger; she refused to forgive him for betraying her.

**mnemonic** *adj.* pertaining to memory. She used mnemonic tricks to master new words.

**mobile** *adj.* movable; not fixed. The mobile blood bank operated by the Red Cross visited our neighborhood today. *mobility, n.*

**mock** *v.* ridicule; imitate, often in derision. It is unkind to mock anyone; it is stupid to mock anyone significantly bigger than you. *mockery, n.*

**mode** *n.* prevailing style; manner; way of doing something. The rock star had to have her hair done in the latest mode; frizzed, with occasional moussed spikes for

variety. Henry plans to adopt a simpler mode of life; he is going to become a mushroom hunter and live off the land.

**modicum** *n.* limited quantity. Although his story is based on a modicum of truth, most of the events he describes are fictitious.

**modish** *adj.* fashionable. She always discarded all garments that were no longer modish.

**modulate** *v.* tone down in intensity; regulate; change from one key to another. Always singing at the top of her lungs, the budding Brunhilde never learned to modulate her voice. *modulation, n.*

**mogul** *n.* powerful person. The oil moguls made great profits when the price of gasoline rose.

**molecule** *n.* the smallest particle (one or more atoms) of a substance that has all the properties of that substance. In chemistry, we study how atoms and molecules react to form new substances.

■ **mollify** *v.* soothe. The airline customer service representative tried to mollify the angry passenger by offering her a seat in first class.

**mollycoddle** *v.* pamper; indulge excessively. Don't mollycoddle the boy, Maud! You'll spoil him.

**molt** *v.* shed or cast off hair or feathers. When Molly's canary molted, he shed feathers all over the house.

**molten** *adj.* melted. The city of Pompeii was destroyed by volcanic ash rather than by molten lava flowing from Mount Vesuvius.

**momentous** ADJ. very important. When Marie and Pierre Curie discovered radium, they had no idea of the *momentous* impact their discovery would have upon society.

**momentum** N. quantity of motion of a moving body; impetus. The car lost *momentum* as it tried to ascend the steep hill.

**monarchy** N. government under a single ruler. Though England today is a *monarchy*, there is some question whether it will be one in 20 years, given the present discontent at the prospect of Prince Charles as king.

**monastic** ADJ. related to monks or monasteries; removed from worldly concerns. Withdrawing from the world, Thomas Merton joined a contemplative religious order and adopted the *monastic* life.

**monetary** ADJ. pertaining to money. Jane held the family purse strings; she made all *monetary* decisions affecting the household.

**monochromatic** ADJ. having only one color. Most people who are color blind actually can distinguish several colors; some, however, have a truly *monochromatic* view of a world all in shades of gray.

**monolithic** ADJ. solidly uniform; unyielding. Knowing the importance of appearing resolute, the patriots sought to present a *monolithic* front.

**monotheism** N. belief in one God. Abraham was the first to proclaim his belief in *monotheism*.

**monotony** N. sameness leading to boredom. What could be more deadly dull than the *monotony* of punching numbers into a computer hour after hour? *monotonous*, ADJ.

**monumental** ADJ. massive. Writing a dictionary is a *monumental* task.

**moodiness** N. fits of depression or gloom. We could not discover the cause of her recurrent *moodiness*.

**moratorium** N. legal delay of payment. If we declare a *moratorium* and delay collection of debts for six months, I am sure the farmers will be able to meet their bills.

**morbid** ADJ. given to unwholesome thought; moody; characteristic of disease. People who come to disaster sites just to peer at the grisly wreckage are indulging their *morbid* curiosity. *morbidity*, N.

**mordant** ADJ. biting; sarcastic; stinging. Actors feared the critic's *mordant* pen.

**mores** N. conventions; moral standards; customs. In America, Benazir Bhutto dressed as Western women did; in Pakistan, however, she followed the *mores* of her people, dressing in traditional veil and robes.

**moribund** ADJ. dying. Hearst took a *moribund*, failing weekly newspaper and transformed it into one of the liveliest, most profitable daily papers around.

■ **morose** ADJ. ill-humored; sullen; melancholy. Forced to take early retirement, Bill acted *morose* for months; then, all of a sudden, he shook off his gloom and was his usual cheerful self.

**mortician** N. undertaker. The *mortician* prepared the corpse for burial.

**mortify** v. humiliate; punish the flesh. She was so *mortified* by her blunder that she ran to her room in tears.

**mosaic** N. picture made of small, colorful inlaid tiles. The mayor compared the city to a beautiful *mosaic* made up of people of every race and religion on earth. also ADJ.

**mote** N. small speck. The tiniest *mote* in the eye is very painful.

**motif** N. theme. This simple *motif* runs throughout the score.

**motility** N. ability to move spontaneously. Certain organisms exhibit remarkable *motility*; *motile* spores, for example, may travel for miles before coming to rest. *motile*, ADJ.

**motley** ADJ. multicolored; mixed. The jester wore a *motley* tunic, red and green and blue and gold all patched together haphazardly. Captain Ahab had gathered a *motley* crew to sail the vessel: old sea dogs and runaway boys, pillars of the church and drunkards, even a tattooed islander who terrified the rest of the crew.

**mottled** ADJ. blotched in coloring; spotted. When old Falstaff blushed, his face became *mottled*, all pink and purple and red.

**mountebank** N. charlatan; boastful pretender. The patent medicine man was a *mountebank*.

**muddle** v. confuse; mix up. Her thoughts were *muddled* and chaotic. also N.

**muggy** ADJ. warm and damp. August in New York City is often *muggy*.

**mulct** v. defraud a person of something. The lawyer was accused of trying to *mulct* the boy of his legacy.

**multifarious** ADJ. varied; greatly diversified. A career woman and mother, she was constantly busy with the *multifarious* activities of her daily life.

**multiform** ADJ. having many forms. Snowflakes are *multiform* but always hexagonal.

**multilingual** ADJ. having many languages. Because they are bordered by so many countries, the Swiss people are *multilingual*.

**multiplicity** N. state of being numerous. She was appalled by the *multiplicity* of details she had to complete before setting out on her mission.

■ **mundane** ADJ. worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday. Uninterested in philosophical or spiritual discussions, Tom talked only of *mundane* matters such as the daily weather forecast or the latest basketball results.

**munificent** ADJ. very generous. Shamelessly fawning over a particularly generous donor, the dean kept referring to her as "our *munificent* benefactor." *munificence*, N.

**mural** N. wall painting. The walls of the Chicano Community Center are covered with *murals* painted in the style of Diego Rivera, the great Mexican artist.

**murky** ADJ. dark and gloomy; thick with fog; vague. The *murky* depths of the swamp were so dark that you couldn't tell the vines and branches from the snakes. *murkiness*, N.

**muse** v. ponder. For a moment he *mingled* about the beauty of the scene, but his thoughts soon changed as he recalled his own personal problems. also N.

**musky** ADJ. having the odor of musk. She left a trace of *musky* perfume behind her.

**muster** V. gather; assemble. Washington *mustered* his forces at Trenton.

**musty** ADJ. stale; spoiled by age. The attic was dark and *musty*.

**mutability** N. ability to change in form; fickleness. Going from rags to riches, and then back to rags again, the bankrupt financier was a victim of the *mutability* of fortune. *mutable*, ADJ.

**muted** ADJ. silent; muffled; toned down. Thanks to the thick, sound-absorbing walls of the cathedral, only *muted* traffic noise reached the worshippers within. *mute*, V., N.

**mutilate** V. maim. The torturer threatened to *mutilate* his victim.

**mutinous** ADJ. unruly; rebellious. The captain had to use force to quiet his *mutinous* crew. *mutiny*, N.

**myopic** ADJ. nearsighted; lacking foresight. Stumbling into doors despite the coke-bottle lenses on his glasses, the nearsighted Mr. Magoo is markedly *myopic*. In playing all summer long and failing to store up food for

winter, the grasshopper in Aesop's fable was *myopic* as well. *myopia*, N.

**myriad** N. very large number. *Myriads* of mosquitoes from the swamps invaded our village every twilight. also ADJ.

**nadir** N. lowest point. Although few people realized it, the Dow-Jones averages had reached their *nadir* and would soon begin an upward surge.

**naïveté** N. quality of being unsophisticated; simplicity; artlessness; gullibility. Touched by the *naïveté* of sweet, convent-trained Cosette, Marius pledges himself to protect her innocence. *naïve*, ADJ.

**narcissist** N. conceited person. A *narcissist* is his own best friend.

**narrative** ADJ. related to telling a story. A born teller of tales, Olsen used her impressive *narrative* skills to advantage in her story "I Stand Here Ironing." also N. *narration*, N.

**nascent** ADJ. incipient; coming into being. If we could identify these revolutionary movements in their *nascent* state, we would be able to eliminate serious trouble in later years.

## Test

### Word List 31 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

451. MODISH (A) sentimental (B) stylish (C) vacillating (D) contrary (E) adorned
452. MOLLIFY (A) avenge (B) attenuate (C) attribute (D) mortify (E) appease
453. MONETARY (A) boring (B) fascinating (C) fiscal (D) stationary (E) scrupulous
454. MORATORIUM (A) burial (B) gathering (C) delay (D) refusal (E) suspicion
455. MORDANT (A) dying (B) trenchant (C) fabricating (D) controlling (E) avenging
456. MORIBUND (A) dying (B) appropriate (C) leather bound (D) answering (E) undertaking

457. MOTLEY (A) active (B) disguised (C) variegated (D) somber (E) sick
458. MUGGY (A) attacking (B) fascinating (C) humid (D) characteristic (E) gelid
459. MULCT (A) swindle (B) hold (C) record (D) print (E) fertilize
460. MULTILINGUAL (A) variegated (B) polyglot (C) multifateral (D) polyandrous (E) multiplied
461. MUNDANE (A) global (B) futile (C) spatial (D) heretic (E) worldly
462. MUNIFICENT (A) grandiose (B) puny (C) philanthropic (D) poor (E) gracious
463. MUSTY (A) flat (B) necessary (C) indifferent (D) nonchalant (E) vivid
464. MYOPIC (A) visionary (B) nearsighted (C) moral (D) glassy (E) blind
465. NASCENT (A) incipient (B) ignorant (C) loyal (D) treacherous (E) unnamed

### Word List 32 notation-obsidian

**notation** N. swimming. The Red Cross emphasizes the need for courses in *notation*.

**natty** ADJ. neatly or smartly dressed. Priding himself on being a *natty* dresser, the gangster Bugsy Siegel collected a wardrobe of imported suits and ties.

**nauseate** V. cause to become sick; fill with disgust. The foul smells began to *nauseate* her.

**nautical** ADJ. pertaining to ships or navigation. The Maritime Museum contains models of clipper ships, logbooks, anchors, and many other items of a *nautical* nature.

navigable ADJ. wide and deep enough to allow ships to pass through; able to be steered. So much sand had built up at the bottom of the canal that the waterway was barely *navigable*.

nebulous ADJ. vague; hazy; cloudy. Phil and Dave tried to come up with a clear, intelligible business plan, not some hazy, *nebulous* proposal.

necromancy N. black magic; dealings with the dead. The evil sorcerer performed feats of *necromancy*, calling on the spirits of the dead to tell the future. necromancer, N.

nefarious ADJ. very wicked. The villain's crimes, though various, were one and all *nefarious*.

**■ negate** v. cancel out; nullify; deny. A sudden surge of adrenalin can *negate* the effects of fatigue; there's nothing like a good shock to wake you up. negation, N.

negligence N. neglect; failure to take reasonable care. Tommy failed to put back the cover on the well after he fetched his pail of water, because of his *negligence*. Kitty fell in. negligent, ADJ.

negligible ADJ. so small, trifling, or unimportant as to be easily disregarded. Because the damage to his car had been *negligible*, Michael decided he wouldn't bother to report the matter to his insurance company.

nemesis N. someone seeking revenge. Abandoned at sea in a small boat, the vengeful Captain Bligh vowed to be the *nemesis* of Fletcher Christian and his fellow mutineers.

neologism N. new or newly coined word or phrase. As we invent new techniques and professions, we must also invent *neologisms* such as "microcomputer" and "astronaut" to describe them.

**■ neophyte** N. recent convert; beginner. This mountain slope contains slides that will challenge experts as well as *neophytes*.

nepotism N. favoritism (to a relative). John left his position with the company because he felt that advancement was based on *nepotism* rather than ability.

nether ADJ. lower. Tradition locates hell in the *nether* regions.

nettle v. annoy; vex. Do not let her *nettle* you with her sarcastic remarks.

nexus N. connection. I fail to see the *nexus* that binds these two widely separated events.

nib N. beak; pen point. The *nibs* of fountain pens often become clogged and corroded.

nicety N. precision; minute distinction. I cannot distinguish between such *niceties* of reasoning. nice, ADJ. (secondary meaning)

niggardly ADJ. meanly stingy; parsimonious. The *niggardly* pittance the widow receives from the government cannot keep her from poverty.

niggle v. spend too much time on minor points; carp. Let's not *niggle* over details. niggling, ADJ.

nihilist N. one who considers traditional beliefs to be groundless and existence meaningless; absolute skeptic; revolutionary terrorist. In his final days, Hitler revealed

himself a power-mad *nihilist*, ready to annihilate all of Western Europe, even to destroy Germany itself, in order that his will might prevail. The root of the word *nihilist* is *nihil*, Latin for "nothing." nihilism, N.

nip v. stop something's growth or development; snip off; bite; make numb with cold. The twins were plotting mischief, but Mother intervened and *nipped* their plan in the bud. The gardener *nipped* off a lovely rose and gave it to me. Last week a guard dog *nipped* the postman in the leg; this week the extreme chill *nipped* his fingers till he could barely hold the mail.

nirvana N. in Buddhist teachings, the ideal state in which the individual loses himself in the attainment of an impersonal beatitude. Despite his desire to achieve *nirvana*, the young Buddhist found that even the buzzing of a fly could distract him from his meditation.

nocturnal ADJ. done at night. Mr. Jones obtained a watchdog to prevent the *nocturnal* raids on his chicken coops.

noisome ADJ. foul-smelling; unwholesome. The *noisome* atmosphere downwind of the oil refinery not only stank but also damaged the lungs of everyone living in the area.

nomadic ADJ. wandering. Several *nomadic* tribes of Indians would hunt in this area each year. nomad, N.

noménclature N. terminology; system of names. Sharon found Latin word parts useful in translating medical *noménclature*; when her son had to have a bilateral myringotomy, she figured out that he needed a hole in each of his eardrums to end his earaches.

nominal ADJ. in name only; trifling. He offered to drive her to the airport for only a *nominal* fee.

nonchalance N. indifference; lack of concern; composure. Cool, calm, and collected under fire, James Bond shows remarkable *nonchalance* in the face of danger. nonchalant, ADJ.

noncommittal ADJ. neutral; unpledged; undecided. We were annoyed by his *noncommittal* reply for we had been led to expect definite assurances of his approval.

nondescript ADJ. undistinctive; ordinary. The private detective was a short, *nondescript* fellow with no outstanding features, the sort of person one would never notice in a crowd.

nonentity N. person of no importance; nonexistence. Because the two older princes dismissed their youngest brother as a *nonentity*, they did not realize that he was quietly plotting to seize the throne.

nonplus v. bring to a halt by confusion; perplex. Jack's uncharacteristic rudeness *nonplussed* Jill, leaving her uncertain how to react.

nostalgia N. homesickness; longing for the past. My grandfather seldom spoke of life in the old country; he had little patience with *nostalgia*. nostalgic, ADJ.

nostrum N. questionable medicine. No quack selling *nostrums* is going to cheat me.

**notable** ADJ. conspicuous; important; distinguished. Normally *notable* for his calm in the kitchen, today the head cook was shaking, for the *notable* chef Julia Child was coming to dinner. also N.

**notoriety** N. disrepute; ill fame. To the starlet, any publicity was good publicity. If she couldn't have a good reputation, she'd settle for *notoriety*. **notorious**, ADJ.

**novelty** N. something new; newness. The computer is no longer a *novelty* around the office. **novel**, ADJ.

**novice** N. beginner. Even a *novice* at working with computers can install *Barron's Computer Study Program for the GRE* by following the easy steps outlined in the user's manual.

**noxious** ADJ. harmful. We must trace the source of these *noxious* gases before they asphyxiate us.

**nuance** N. shade of difference in meaning or color; subtle distinction. Jody gazed at the Monet landscape for an hour, appreciating every subtle *nuance* of color in the painting.

**nubile** ADJ. marriageable. Mrs. Bennet, in *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, was worried about finding suitable husbands for her five *nubile* daughters.

**nugatory** ADJ. futile; worthless. This agreement is *nugatory* for no court will enforce it.

**nullify** V. to make invalid. Once the contract was *nullified*, it no longer had any legal force.

**numismatist** N. person who collects coins. The *numismatist* had a splendid collection of antique coins.

**nuptial** ADJ. related to marriage. Reluctant to be married in a traditional setting, they decided to hold their *nuptial* ceremony at the carousel in Golden Gate Park. **nuptials**, N. PL.

**nurture** V. nourish; educate; foster. The Head Start program attempts to *nurture* prekindergarten children so that they will do well when they enter public school. also N.

**nutrient** N. nourishing substance. As a budding nutritionist, Kim has learned to design diets that contain foods rich in important basic *nutrients*. also ADJ.

**oaf** N. stupid, awkward person. "Watch what you're doing, you clumsy *oaf*!" Bill shouted at the waiter who had drenched him with iced coffee.

**obdurate** ADJ. stubborn. He was obdurate in his refusal to listen to our complaints.

**obeisance** N. bow. She made an *obeisance* as the king and queen entered the room.

**obelisk** N. tall column tapering and ending in a pyramid. Cleopatra's Needle is an *obelisk* in New York City's Central Park.

**obese** ADJ. excessively fat. It is advisable that obese people try to lose weight. **obesity**, N.

**obfuscate** V. confuse; muddle; cause confusion; make needlessly complex. Was the president's spokesman trying to clarify the Whitewater mystery, or was he trying to *obfuscate* the issue so the voters would never figure out what went on?

**obituary** N. death notice. I first learned of her death when I read the *obituary* in the newspaper. also ADJ.

**objective** ADJ. not influenced by emotions; fair. Even though he was her son, she tried to be *objective* about his behavior.

**objective** N. goal; aim. A degree in medicine was her ultimate *objective*.

**obligatory** ADJ. binding; required. It is *obligatory* that books borrowed from the library be returned within two weeks.

**oblique** ADJ. indirect; slanting (deviating from the perpendicular or from a straight line). Casting a quick, *oblique* glance at the reviewing stand, the sergeant ordered the company to march "*Oblique* Right."

**obliterate** V. destroy completely. The tidal wave *obliterated* several island villages.

**oblivion** N. obscurity; forgetfulness. After a decade of popularity, Hurston's works had fallen into *oblivion*; no one bothered to read them any more.

**oblivious** ADJ. inattentive or unmindful; wholly absorbed. Deep in her book, Nancy was *oblivious* to the noisy squabbles of her brother and his friends.

**obloquy** N. slander; disgrace; infamy. I resent the *obloquy* that you are casting upon my reputation.

**obnoxious** ADJ. offensive. I find your behavior *obnoxious*; please mend your ways.

**obscure** ADJ. dark; vague; unclear. Even after I read the poem a fourth time, its meaning was still *obscure*. **obscurity**, N.

**obscure** V. darken; make unclear. At times he seemed purposely to *obscure* his meaning, preferring mystery to clarity.

**obsequious** ADJ. slavishly attentive; servile; sycophantic. Helen valued people who behaved as if they respected themselves; nothing irritated her more than an excessively *obsequious* waiter or a fawning salesclerk.

**obsequy** N. funeral ceremony. Hundreds paid their last respects at his *obsequies*.

**obsessive** ADJ. related to thinking about something constantly; preoccupying. Ballet, which had been a hobby, began to dominate his life: his love of dancing became *obsessive*. **obsession**, N.

**obsidian** N. black volcanic rock. The deposits of *obsidian* on the mountain slopes were an indication that the volcano had erupted in ancient times.

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## Test

Word List 32 *Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

466. NEBULOUS (A) starry (B) clear (C) cold (D) fundamental (E) porous
467. NEFARIOUS (A) various (B) lacking (C) benign (D) pompous (E) futile
468. NEGATION (A) postulation (B) hypothecation (C) affirmation (D) violation (E) anticipation
469. NEOPHYTE (A) veteran (B) satellite (C) desperado (D) handwriting (E) violence
470. NIGGARDLY (A) protected (B) biased (C) prodigal (D) bankrupt (E) placated
471. NOCTURNAL (A) harsh (B) mareuding (C) patrolling (D) daily (E) fallow
472. NOISOME (A) quiet (B) dismayed (C) fragrant (D) sleepy (E) inquisitive
473. NOTORIOUS (A) fashionable (B) renowned (C) inactive (D) intrepid (E) invincible
474. OBDURATE (A) yielding (B) fleeting (C) finite (D) fascinating (E) permanent
475. OBESE (A) skillful (B) cadaverous (C) clever (D) unpredictable (E) lucid
476. OBJECTIVE (A) indecisive (B) apathetic (C) markedly inferior (D) emotionally involved (E) authoritative
477. OBLIGATORY (A) demanding (B) optional (C) facile (D) friendly (E) divorced
478. OBLOOY (A) praise (B) rectangle (C) circle (D) dialogue (E) cure
479. OBSEQUIOUS (A) successful (B) democratic (C) supercilious (D) ambitious (E) lamentable
480. OBSESSION (A) whim (B) loss (C) phobia (D) delusion (E) feud

Word List 33 *obsolete-overweening*

**obsolete** ADJ. outmoded. "Hip" is an *obsolete* expression; it went out with love beads and tie-dye shirts.

**obstetrician** N. physician specializing in delivery of babies. Unlike midwives, who care for women giving birth at home, *obstetricians* generally work in a hospital setting.

**obstinate** ADJ. stubborn; hard to control or treat. We tried to persuade him to give up smoking, but he was *obstinate* and refused to change. Blackberry stickers are the most *obstinate* weeds I know; once established in a yard, they're extremely hard to root out. *obstinacy*, N.

**obstreperous** ADJ. boisterous; noisy. What do you do when an *obstreperous* horde of drunken policemen carouses through your hotel, crashing into potted plants and singing vulgar songs?

**obtrude** V. push (oneself or one's ideas) forward or intrude; butt in; stick out or extrude. Because Fanny was reluctant to *obtrude* her opinions about child-raising upon her daughter-in-law, she kept a close watch on her tongue. *obtrusive*, ADJ. *obtrusion*, N.

**obtuse** ADJ. blunt; stupid. What can you do with somebody who's so *obtuse* that he can't even tell that you're insulting him?

■ **obviate** V. make unnecessary; get rid of. I hope this contribution will *obviate* any need for further collections of funds.

**Occident** N. the West. It will take time for the *Occident* to understand the ways and customs of the Orient.

■ **occlude** V. shut; close. A blood clot *occluded* an artery to the heart. *occlusion*, N.

**occult** ADJ. mysterious; secret; supernatural. The *occult* rites of the organization were revealed only to members. also N.

**oculist** N. physician who specializes in treatment of the eyes; in many states, an *oculist* is the only one who may apply medicinal drops to the eyes for the purpose of examining them.

**odious** ADJ. hateful; vile. Cinderella's ugly stepsisters had the *odious* habit of popping their zits in public.

**odium** N. detestation; hatefulness; disrepute. Prince Charming could not express the *odium* he felt toward Cinderella's stepsisters because of their mistreatment of poor Cinderella.

**odoriferous** ADJ. giving off an odor. The *odoriferous* spices stimulated her jaded appetite.

**odorous** ADJ. having an odor. This variety of hybrid tea rose is more *odorous* than the one you have in your garden.

**odyssey** N. long, eventful journey. The refugee's journey from Cambodia was a terrifying *odyssey*.

**offensive** ADJ. attacking; insulting; distasteful. Getting into street brawls is no minor offense for professional boxers, who are required by law to restrict their *offensive* impulses to the ring.

**offhand** ADJ. casual; done without prior thought. Expecting to be treated with due propriety by her hosts, Great Aunt Maud was offended by their *offhand* manner.



■ **officious** ADJ. meddling; excessively pushy in offering one's services. After her long flight, Jill just wanted to nap, but the *officious* bellboy was intent on showing her all the special features of the deluxe suite.

**ogle** V. look at amorously; make eyes at. At the coffee house, Walter was too shy to *ogle* the pretty girls openly; instead, he peeked out at them from behind a rubber plant.

**olfactory** ADJ. concerning the sense of smell. A wine taster must have a discriminating palate and a keen *olfactory* sense, for a good wine appeals both to the taste buds and to the nose.

**oligarchy** N. government by a privileged few. One small clique ran the student council: what had been intended as a democratic governing body had turned into an *oligarchy*.

**ominous** ADJ. threatening. Those clouds are *ominous*; they suggest that a severe storm is on the way.

**omnipotent** ADJ. all-powerful. The monarch regarded himself as *omnipotent* and responsible to no one for his acts.

**omnipresent** ADJ. universally present; ubiquitous. On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus is *omnipresent*.

**omniscient** ADJ. all-knowing. I do not pretend to be *omniscient*, but I am positive about this fact.

**omnivorous** ADJ. eating both plant and animal food; devouring everything. Some animals, including humans, are *omnivorous* and eat both meat and vegetables; others are either carnivorous or herbivorous.

■ **onerous** ADJ. burdensome. She asked for an assistant because her work load was too *onerous*.

**onomatopoeia** N. words formed in imitation of natural sounds. Words like "rustle" and "gargle" are illustrations of *onomatopoeia*.

**onslaught** N. vicious assault. We suffered many casualties during the unexpected *onslaught* of the enemy troops.

**onus** N. burden; responsibility. The emperor was spared the *onus* of signing the surrender papers; instead, he relegated the assignment to his generals.

**opalescent** ADJ. iridescent; lustrous. The oil slick on the water had an *opalescent*, rainbowlike sheen. *Opalescence*, N.

**opaque** ADJ. dark; not transparent. The *opaque* window kept the sunlight out of the room. *Opacity*, N.

**opiate** N. medicine to induce sleep or deaden pain; something that relieves emotions or ceases inaction. To say that religion is the *opiate* of the people is to condemn religion as a drug that keeps the people quiet and submissive to those in power.

**opportune** ADJ. timely; well-chosen. Cher looked at her father struggling to balance his checkbook; clearly this would not be an *opportune* moment to ask him for an increase in her allowance.

**opportunist** N. individual who sacrifices principles for expediency by taking advantage of circumstances. Forget about ethics! He's such an *opportunist* that he'll vote in favor of any deal that will give him a break.

■ **opprobrium** N. infamy; vilification. He refused to defend himself against the slander and *opprobrium* hurled against him by the newspapers; he preferred to rely on his record.

**optician** N. maker and seller of eyeglasses. The patient took the prescription given him by his oculist to the *optician*.

**optimist** N. person who looks on the bright side. The pessimist says the glass is half-empty; the *optimist* says it is half-full.

**optimum** ADJ. most favorable. If you wait for the *optimum* moment to act, you may never begin your project. also N.

**optional** ADJ. not compulsory; left to one's choice. I was impressed by the range of *optional* accessories for my microcomputer that were available. *option*, N.

**optometrist** N. one who fits glasses to remedy visual defects. Although an *optometrist* is qualified to treat many eye disorders, she may not use medicines or surgery in her examinations.

**opulence** N. extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abundance. The glitter and *opulence* of the ballroom took Cinderella's breath away. *opulent*, ADJ.

**opus** N. work. Although many critics hailed his Fifth Symphony, he did not regard it as his major *opus*.

**oracular** ADJ. prophetic; uttered as if with divine authority; mysterious or ambiguous. Like many others who sought divine guidance from the *oracle* at Delphi, Oedipus could not understand the enigmatic *oracular* warning he received. *oracle*, N.

**orator** N. public speaker. The abolitionist Frederick Douglass was a brilliant *orator* whose speeches brought home to his audience the evils of slavery.

**oratorio** N. dramatic poem set to music. The Glee Club decided to present an *oratorio* during their recital.

**ordain** V. decree or command; grant holy orders; predestine. The king *ordained* that no foreigner should be allowed to enter the city. The Bishop of Michigan *ordained* David a deacon in the Episcopal Church. The young lovers felt that fate had *ordained* their meeting.

**ordeal** N. severe trial or affliction. June was so painfully shy that it was an *ordeal* for her to speak up when the teacher called on her in class.

**ordinance** N. decree. Passing a red light is a violation of a city *ordinance*.

**ordination** N. ceremony conferring holy orders. The candidate for *ordination* had to meet with the bishop and the diocesan officers before being judged ready to be *ordained* a deacon. *ordain*, V.

**orgy** N. wild, drunken revelry; unrestrained indulgence. The Roman emperor's *orgies* were far wilder than the toga party in the movie *Animal House*. When her income tax refund check finally arrived, Sally indulged in an *orgy* of shopping.

**orient** V. get one's bearings; adjust. Philip spent his first day in Denver *orienting* himself to the city.

**orientation** N. act of finding oneself in society. Freshman *orientation* provides the incoming students with an

opportunity to learn about their new environment and their place in it.

**orifice** *N.* mouthlike opening; small opening. The Howe Caverns were discovered when someone observed that a cold wind was issuing from an **orifice** in the hillside.

**ornate** *ADJ.* excessively or elaborately decorated. With its elaborately carved, convoluted lines, furniture of the Baroque period was highly **ornate**.

**ornithologist** *N.* scientific student of birds. Audubon's drawings of American bird life have been of interest not only to the **ornithologists** but also to the general public.

**orthodox** *ADJ.* traditional; conservative in belief. Faced with a problem, she preferred to take an **orthodox** approach rather than shock anyone. **orthodoxy**, *N.*

**orthography** *N.* correct spelling. Many of us find English **orthography** difficult to master because so many of our words are not written phonetically.

■ **oscillate** *V.* vibrate pendulumlike; waver. It is interesting to note how public opinion **oscillates** between the extremes of optimism and pessimism.

**osseous** *ADJ.* made of bone; bony. The hollow "soft spot" found at the top of the infant's skull gradually closes as new **osseous** tissue fills in the gap.

**ossify** *V.* change or harden into bone. When he called his opponent a "bonehead," he implied that his adversary's brain had **ossified** and that he was not capable of clear thinking.

**ostensible** *ADJ.* apparent; professed; pretended. Although the **ostensible** purpose of this expedition is to discover new lands, we are really interested in finding new markets for our products.

■ **ostentatious** *ADJ.* showy; pretentious; trying to attract attention. Trump's latest casino in Atlantic City is the most **ostentatious** gambling palace in the East; it easily out-glitters its competitors. **ostentation**, *N.*

**ostracize** *V.* exclude from public favor; ban. As soon as the newspapers carried the story of his connection with

the criminals, his friends began to ostracize him. **ostracism**, *N.*

**oust** *V.* expel; drive out. The world wondered if Aquino would be able to **oust** Marcos from office.

**outlandish** *ADJ.* bizarre; peculiar; unconventional. The eccentric professor who engages in markedly **outlandish** behavior is a stock figure in novels with an academic setting.

**outmoded** *ADJ.* no longer stylish; old-fashioned. Unconcerned about keeping in style, Lenore was perfectly happy to wear **outmoded** clothes as long as they were clean and unfrayed.

**outskirts** *N.* fringes; outer borders. Living on the **outskirts** of Boston, Sarah sometimes felt as if she were cut off from the cultural heart of the city.

**outspoken** *ADJ.* candid; blunt. The candidate was too **outspoken** to be a successful politician; he had not yet learned to weigh his words carefully.

**outstrip** *V.* surpass; outdo. Jesse Owens easily **outstripped** his competitors to win the gold medal at the Olympic Games.

**outwit** *V.* outsmart; trick. By disguising himself as an old woman, Holmes was able to **outwit** his pursuers and escape capture.

**ovation** *N.* enthusiastic applause. When Placido Domingo came on stage in the first act of *La Bohème*, he was greeted by a tremendous **ovation**.

**overbearing** *ADJ.* bossy; arrogant; decisively important. Certain of her own importance and of the unimportance of everyone else, Lady Bracknell was intolerably **overbearing** in manner. "In choosing a husband," she said, "good birth is of **overbearing** importance; compared to that, neither wealth nor talent signifies."

**overt** *ADJ.* open to view. According to the United States Constitution, a person must commit an **overt** act before he may be tried for treason.

**overweening** *ADJ.* presumptuous; arrogant. His **overweening** pride in his accomplishments was not justified.

## Test

### Word List 33 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

481. OBSOLETE (A) heated (B) desolate (C) renovated (D) frightful (E) automatic
482. OBSTREPEROUS (A) turbid (B) quiet (C) remote (D) lucid (E) active
483. OBTUSE (A) sheer (B) transparent (C) tranquil (D) timid (E) shrewd
484. OOIOUS (A) fragrant (B) redolent (C) fetid (D) delightful (E) puny

485. OOIUM (A) noise (B) liking (C) dominant (D) hasty (E) atrium
486. OMNIPOTENT (A) weak (B) democratic (C) despotic (D) passionate (E) late
487. OMNISCIENT (A) sophisticated (B) ignorant (C) essential (D) trivial (E) isolated
488. OPIATE (A) distress (B) sleep (C) stimulant (D) laziness (E) despair
489. OPPORTUNE (A) occasional (B) fragrant (C) fragile (D) awkward (E) neglected
490. OPPORTUNIST (A) man of destiny (B) man of principle (C) changeling (D) adversary (E) colleague

491. OPPROBRIUM (A) delineation (B) aptitude  
(C) majesty (D) freedom (E) praise

492. OPTIMUM (A) pessimistic (B) knowledgeable  
(C) worst (D) minimum (E) chosen

493. OPULENCE (A) pessimism (B) patriotism  
(C) potency (D) passion (E) poverty

494. OSTENTATIOUS (A) inactive (B) unassuming  
(C) impolite (D) illicit (E) irrational

495. OVERWEENING (A) humble (B) impotent (C) avid  
(D) acrimonious (E) exaggerated

## Word List 34      overwrought-peccadillo

**overwrought** ADJ. extremely agitated; hysterical. When Kate heard the news of the sudden tragedy, she became too *overwrought* to work and had to leave the office early.

**ovoid** ADJ. egg-shaped. At Easter she had to cut out hundreds of brightly colored *ovoid* shapes.

**pachyderm** N. thick-skinned animal. The elephant is probably the best-known *pachyderm*.

**pacifist** N. one opposed to force; antimilitarist. During the war, *pacifists*, though they refused to bear arms, served in the front lines as ambulance drivers and medical corpsmen, also ADJ. *pacifism*, N.

**pacify** V. soothe; make calm or quiet; subdue. Dentists criticize the practice of giving fussy children sweets to *pacify* them.

**paean** N. song of praise or joy. *Paeans* celebrating the victory filled the air.

**painstaking** ADJ. showing hard work; taking great care. The new high-frequency word list is the result of *painstaking* efforts on the part of our research staff.

**palatable** ADJ. agreeable; pleasing to the taste. Neither Jack's underbaked opinions nor his overcooked casseroles were *palatable* to me.

**palate** N. roof of the mouth; sense of taste. When you sound out the letter "d," your tongue curves up to touch the edge of your *palate*. When Alice was sick, her mother made special meals to tempt her *palate*.

**palatial** ADJ. magnificent. He proudly showed us through his *palatial* home.

**paleontology** N. study of prehistoric life. The professor of *paleontology* had a superb collection of fossils.

**palette** N. board on which a painter mixes pigments. At the present time, art supply stores are selling a paper *palette* that may be discarded after use.

**pallimpsest** N. parchment used for second time after original writing has been erased. Using chemical reagents, scientists have been able to restore the original writings on many *pallimpsests*.

**pall** V. grow tiresome. The study of word lists can eventually *pall* and put one to sleep.

**pallet** N. small, poor bed. The weary traveler went to sleep on his straw *pallet*.

**palliate** V. ease pain; make less severe or offensive. If we cannot cure this disease at present, we can, at least, try to *palliate* the symptoms. *palliation*, N.

**pallid** ADJ. pale; wan. Because his occupation required that he work at night and sleep during the day, he had an exceptionally *pallid* complexion.

**palpable** ADJ. tangible; easily perceptible. I cannot understand how you could overlook such a *palpable* blunder.

**palpitate** V. throb; flutter. As she became excited, her heart began to *palpitate* more and more erratically.

**paltry** ADJ. insignificant; petty; trifling. "One hundred dollars for a genuine imitation Rolex watch! Lady, this is a *paltry* sum to pay for such a high-class piece of jewelry."

**pan** V. criticize harshly. Hoping for a rave review of his new show, the playwright was miserable when the critics *panned* it unanimously.

**panacea** N. cure-all; remedy for all diseases. There is no easy *panacea* that will solve our complicated international situation.

**panache** N. flair; flamboyance. Many performers imitate Noel Coward, but few have his *panache* and sense of style.

**pandemic** ADJ. widespread; affecting the majority of people. They feared the AIDS epidemic would soon reach *pandemic* proportions.

**pandemonium** N. wild tumult. When the ships collided in the harbor, *pandemonium* broke out among the passengers.

**pander** V. cater to the low desires of others. The reviewer accused the makers of *Lethal Weapon* of *pandering* to the masses' taste for violence.

**panegyric** N. formal praise. Blushing at all the praise heaped upon him by the speakers, the modest hero said, "I don't deserve such *panegyrics*."

**panoramic** ADJ. denoting an unobstructed and comprehensive view. On a clear day, from the top of the World Trade Center you can get a *panoramic* view of New York City and neighboring stretches of New Jersey and Long Island. *panorama*, N.

**pantomime** N. acting without dialogue. Because he worked in *pantomime*, the clown could be understood wherever he appeared, also V.

**papyrus** N. ancient paper made from stem of papyrus plant. The ancient Egyptians were among the first to write on *papyrus*.

**parable** N. short, simple story teaching a moral. Let us apply to our own conduct the lesson that this *parable* teaches.

**paradigm** *n.* model; example; pattern. Pavlov's experiment in which he trains a dog to salivate on hearing a bell is a *paradigm* of the conditioned-response experiment in behavioral psychology. *paradigmatic*, *ADJ.*

**paradox** *n.* something apparently contradictory in nature; statement that looks false but is actually correct. Richard presents a bit of a *paradox*, for he is a card-carrying member of both the National Rifle Association and the relatively pacifist American Civil Liberties Union. *paradoxical*, *ADJ.*

■ **paragon** *n.* model of perfection. Her fellow students disliked Lavinia because Miss Minchin always pointed her out as a *paragon* of virtue.

**parallelism** *n.* state of being parallel; similarity. Although the twins were separated at birth and grew up in different adoptive families, a striking *parallelism* exists between their lives.

**parameter** *n.* limit; independent variable. We need to define the *parameters* of the problem.

**paramount** *ADJ.* foremost in importance; supreme. Proper nutrition and hygiene are of *paramount* importance in adolescent development and growth.

**paramour** *n.* illicit lover. She sought a divorce on the grounds that her husband had a *paramour* in another town.

**paranoia** *n.* psychosis marked by delusions of grandeur or persecution. Suffering from *paranoia*, he claimed everyone was out to get him. Ironically, his claim was accurate; even *paranoids* have enemies. *paranoid*, *paranoidiac*, *n.* and *ADJ.*

**paraphernalia** *n.* equipment; odds and ends. Her desk was cluttered with paper, pen, ink, dictionary and other *paraphernalia* of the writing craft.

**paraphrase** *v.* restate a passage in one's own words while retaining thought of author. In 250 words or less, *paraphrase* this article. also *n.*

**parasite** *n.* animal or plant living on another; toady; sycophant. The tapeworm is an example of the kind of *parasite* that may infest the human body.

**parched** *ADJ.* extremely dry; very thirsty. The *parched* desert landscape seemed hostile to life.

**pariah** *n.* social outcast. If everyone ostracized singer Mariah Carey, would she then be Mariah the *pariah*?

**parity** *n.* equality; close resemblance. I find your analogy inaccurate because I do not see the *parity* between the two illustrations.

**parlance** *n.* language; idiom. All this legal *parlance* confuses me; I need an interpreter.

**parley** *n.* conference. The peace *parley* has not produced the anticipated truce. also *v.*

**parochial** *ADJ.* narrow in outlook; provincial; related to parishes. Although Jane Austen writes novels set in small rural communities, her concerns are universal, not *parochial*.

**parody** *n.* humorous imitation; spoof; takeoff; travesty. The show *Forbidden Broadway* presents *parodies* spoofing the year's new productions playing on Broadway. also *v.*

**paroxysm** *n.* fit or attack of pain, laughter, rage. When he heard of his son's misdeeds, he was seized by a *paroxysm* of rage.

**parquet** *n.* floor made of wood strips inlaid in a mosaic-like pattern. In laying the floor, the carpenters combined redwood and oak in an elegant *parquet*.

**parry** *v.* ward off a blow; deflect. Unwilling to injure his opponent in such a pointless clash, D'Artagnan simply tried to *parry* his rival's thrusts. What fun it was to watch Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy *parry* each other's verbal thrusts in their classic screwball comedies! also *n.*

**parsimony** *n.* stinginess; excessive frugality. Silas Marner's *parsimony* did not allow him to indulge in any luxuries. *parsimonious*, *ADJ.*

**partial** *ADJ.* incomplete; having a liking for something. In this issue we have published only a *partial* list of contributors because we lack space to acknowledge everyone. I am extremely *partial* to chocolate eclairs. *partiality*, *n.*

**partiality** *n.* inclination; bias. As a judge, not only must I be unbiased, but I must also avoid any evidence of *partiality* when I award the prize.

■ **partisan** *ADJ.* one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a party. Rather than joining forces to solve our nation's problems, the Democrats and Republicans spend their time on *partisan* struggles. also *n.*

**partition** *v.* divide into parts. Before their second daughter was born, Jason and Lizzie decided each child needed a room of her own, and so they *partitioned* a large bedroom into two small but separate rooms. also *n.*

**passé** *ADJ.* old-fashioned; past the prime. Her style is *passé* and reminiscent of the Victorian era.

**passive** *ADJ.* not active; acted upon. Mahatma Gandhi urged his followers to pursue a program of *passive* resistance as he felt that it was more effective than violence and acts of terrorism.

**pastiche** *n.* imitation of another's style in musical composition or in writing. We cannot even say that her music is a *pastiche* of this or that composer; it is, rather, reminiscent of many musicians.

**pastoral** *ADJ.* rural. In these stories of *pastoral* life, we find an understanding of the daily tasks of country folk.

**patent** *ADJ.* open for the public to read; obvious. It was *patent* to everyone that the witness spoke the truth.

**pathetic** *ADJ.* causing sadness, compassion, pity; touching. Everyone in the auditorium was weeping by the time she finished her *pathetic* tale about the orphaned boy.

■ **pathological** *ADJ.* pertaining to disease. As we study the *pathological* aspects of this disease, we must not overlook the psychological elements.

**pathos** *n.* tender sorrow; pity; quality in art or literature that produces these feelings. The quiet tone of *pathos* that ran through the novel never degenerated into the maudlin or the overly sentimental.

**patina** *n.* green crust on old bronze works; tone slowly taken by varnished painting. Judging by the *patina* on this bronze statue, we can conclude that this is the work of a medieval artist.

*patois* *n.* local or provincial dialect. His years of study of the language at the university did not enable him to understand the *patois* of the natives.

*patriarch* *n.* father and ruler of a family or tribe. In many primitive tribes, the leader and lawmaker was the *patriarch*.

*patrician* *ADJ.* noble; aristocratic. We greatly admired her well-bred, *patrician* elegance. also *n.*

*patronize* *v.* support; act superior toward; be a customer of. Penniless artists hope to find some wealthy art lover who will *patronize* them. If some condescending wine

steward *patronized* me because he saw I knew nothing about fine wine, I'd refuse to *patronize* his restaurant.

■ *paucity* *n.* scarcity. They closed the restaurant because the *paucity* of customers made it uneconomical to operate. *shortage* 1 *sub*

*pauper* *n.* very poor person. Though Widow Brown was living on a reduced income, she was by no means a *pauper*.

*peccadillo* *n.* slight offense. Whenever Huck swiped a cookie from the jar, Miss Watson reacted as if he were guilty of armed robbery, not of some mere *peccadillo*.

## Test

### Word List 34 *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

496. PAEAN (A) serf (B) peeling (C) lien (D) lament (E) folly
497. PALLET (A) bed (B) pigment board (C) bench (D) spectrum (E) quality
498. PALLIATE (A) smoke (B) quicken (C) substitute (D) alleviate (E) sadden
499. PANDEMONIUM (A) calm (B) frustration (C) efficiency (D) implishness (E) sophistication
500. PANEGRIC (A) medication (B) panacea (C) rotation (D) vacillation (E) preise
501. PARABLE (A) equality (B) allegory (C) frenzy (D) folly (E) cuticle
502. PARADOX (A) exaggeration (B) contradiction (C) hyperbole (D) invective (E) poetic device
503. PARAMOUR (A) illicit lover (B) majority (C) importence (D) hatred (E) clandestine effair
504. PARANOIA (A) fracture (B) statement (C) quantity (D) benefaction (E) sanity
505. PARIAS (A) villege (B) suburb (C) outcast (D) disease (E) benefactor
506. PARITY (A) duplicate (B) miniature (C) golf tee (D) smilarity (E) event
507. PARSIMONIOUS (A) grammatical (B) syntectical (C) effective (D) extravegant (E) esoteric
508. PARTIALITY (A) completion (B) equality (C) bias (D) divorce (E) reflection
509. PASSÉ (A) scornful (B) rural (C) out-of-date (D) silly (E) barbaric
510. PASTICHE (A) imitation (B) glue (C) present (D) greeting (E) family

### Word List 35 *pecuniary-philanderer*

*pecuniary* *ADJ.* pertaining to money. Seldom earning enough to cover their expenses, folk-dance teachers work because they love dancing, not because they expect any *pecuniary* reward.

*pedagogue* *n.* teacher. He could never be a stuffy *pedagogue*; his classes were always lively and filled with humor.

*pedagogy* *n.* teaching; art of education. Though Maria Montessori gained fame for her innovations in *pedagogy*, it took years before her teaching techniques became common practice in American schools.

*pedant* *n.* scholar who overemphasizes book learning or technicalities. Her insistence that the book be memorized marked the teacher as a *pedant* rather than a scholar.

■ *pedantic* *ADJ.* showing off learning; bookish. Leavening her decisions with humorous, down-to-earth

anecdotes, Judge Judy was not at all the *pedantic* legal scholar. *pedantry*, *n.*

*pedestrian* *ADJ.* ordinary; unimaginative. Unintentionally boring, he wrote page after page of *pedestrian* prose.

*pediatrician* *n.* physician specializing in children's diseases. The family doctor advised the parents to consult a *pediatrician* about their child's ailment.

*peerless* *ADJ.* having no equal; incomperable. The reigning operatic tenor of his generation, to his admirers Luciano Pavarotti was *peerless*: no one could compare with him.

*pejorative* *ADJ.* negative in connotation; having a belittling effect. Instead of criticizing Clinton's policies, the Republicans made *pejorative* remarks about his character.

*pell-mell* *ADJ.* in confusion; disorderly. The excited students dashed *pell-mell* into the stadium to celebrate the victory.

**pellucid** ADJ. transparent; limpid; easy to understand. After reading these stodgy philosophers, I find his *pellucid* style very enjoyable.

**penance** N. self-imposed punishment for sin. The Ancient Mariner said, "I have *penance* done and *penance* more will do," to atone for the sin of killing the albatross.

■ **pendant** N. strong inclination; liking. Dave has a *pendant* for taking risks: one semester he went steady with three girls, two of whom were stars on the school karate team.

**pendant** ADJ. hanging down from something. Her *pendant* earrings glistened in the light.

**pendant** N. ornament (hanging from a necklace, etc.). The grateful team presented the coach with a silver chain and *pendant* engraved with the school's motto.

**pendulous** ADJ. hanging; suspended. The *pendulous* chandeliers swayed in the breeze as if they were about to fall from the ceiling.

**penitent** ADJ. repentant. When he realized the enormity of his crime, he became remorseful and *penitent*. also N.

**pensive** ADJ. dreamily thoughtful; thoughtful with a hint of sadness; contemplative. The *pensive* lover gazed at the portrait of his beloved and sighed deeply.

**penumbra** N. partial shadow (in an eclipse). During an eclipse, we can see an area of total darkness and a lighter area, which is the *penumbra*.

■ **penury** N. severe poverty; stinginess. When his pension fund failed, George feared he would end his days in *penury*. He became such a penny-pincher that he turned into a closeted, *penurious* miser. / *پنوس*

**peon** N. landless agricultural worker; bond servant. The land reformers sought to liberate the *peons* and establish them as independent farmers. *peonage*, N.

**perceptive** ADJ. insightful; aware; wise. Although Maud was a generally *perceptive* critic, she had her blind spots: she could never see flaws in the work of her friends.

**percussion** ADJ. striking one object against another sharply. The drum is a *percussion* instrument. also N.

**perdition** N. damnation; complete ruin. Praying for salvation, young Daedalus feared he was damned to eternal *perdition*.

**peregrination** N. journey. Auntie Mame was a world traveler whose *peregrinations* took her from Tijuana to Timbuktu.

**peremptory** ADJ. demanding and leaving no choice. From Jack's *peremptory* knock on the door, Jill could tell he would not give up until she let him in.

■ **perennial** N. something long-lasting. These plants are hardy *perennials* and will bloom for many years. also ADJ.

■ **perfidious** ADJ. treacherous; disloyal. When Caesar realized that Brutus had betrayed him, he reproached his *perfidious* friend. *perfidy*, N.

**perforate** V. pierce; put a hole through. Before you can open the aspirin bottle, you must first *perforate* the plastic safety seal that covers the cap.

■ **perfunctory** ADJ. superficial; not thorough; lacking interest, care, or enthusiasm. The auditor's *perfunctory* inspection of the books overlooked many errors.

**perigee** N. point of moon's orbit when it is nearest the earth. The rocket which was designed to take photographs of the moon was launched as the moon approached its *perigee*.

**perimeter** N. outer boundary. To find the *perimeter* of any quadrilateral, we add the lengths of the four sides.

**peripatetic** ADJ. walking about; moving. The *peripatetic* school of philosophy derives its name from the fact that Aristotle walked with his pupils while discussing philosophy with them.

**peripheral** ADJ. marginal; outer. We lived, not in central London, but in one of those *peripheral* suburbs that spring up on the outskirts of a great city.

**periphery** N. edge, especially of a round surface. He sensed that there was something just beyond the *periphery* of his vision.

**perjury** N. false testimony while under oath. Rather than lie under oath and perhaps be indicted for *perjury*, the witness chose to take the Fifth Amendment, refusing to answer any questions on the grounds that he might incriminate himself.

■ **permeable** ADJ. penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through. If your jogging clothes weren't made out of *permeable* fabric, you'd drown in your own sweat (figuratively speaking). *permeate*, V.

**pernicious** ADJ. very destructive. The Athenians argued that Socrates's teachings had a *pernicious* effect on young and susceptible minds; therefore, they condemned him to death.

**peroration** N. conclusion of an oration. The *peroration* was largely hortatory and brought the audience to its feet clamoring for action at its close.

**perpetrate** V. commit an offense. Only an insane person could *perpetrate* such a horrible crime.

**perpetual** ADJ. everlasting. Ponce de Leon hoped to find the legendary fountain of *perpetual* youth.

**perpetuate** V. make something last; preserve from extinction. Some critics attack *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* because they believe Twain's book *perpetuates* a false image of blacks in this country. *perpetuity*, N.

**perquisite** N. any gain above stipulated salary. The *perquisites* attached to this job make it even more attractive than the salary indicates.

**personable** ADJ. attractive. The individual I am seeking to fill this position must be *personable* since he or she will be representing us before the public.

**perspicacious** ADJ. having insight; penetrating; astute. The brilliant lawyer was known for his *perspicacious* deductions.

**perspicuity** N. clearness of expression; freedom from ambiguity. One of the outstanding features of this book is the *perspicuity* of its author; her meaning is always clear.



**perspicuous** ADJ. plainly expressed. Her *perspicuous* comments eliminated all possibility of misinterpretation.

**pert** ADJ. impertinent; forward. I think your *pert* and impudent remarks call for an apology.

**pertinacious** ADJ. stubborn; persistent. She is bound to succeed because her *pertinacious* nature will not permit her to quit.

**pertinent** ADJ. suitable; to the point. The lawyer wanted to know all the *pertinent* details.

**perturb** V. disturb greatly. The thought that electricity might be leaking out of the empty light-bulb sockets *perturbed* my aunt so much that at night she crept about the house screwing fresh bulbs in the vacant spots. *perturbation*, N.

**peruse** V. read with care. After the conflagration that burned down her house, Joan closely *perused* her home insurance policy to discover exactly what benefits her coverage provided. *perusal*, N.

■ **pervasive** ADJ. spread throughout. Despite airing them for several hours, she could not rid her clothes of the *pervasive* odor of mothballs that clung to them. *pervade*, V.

**perverse** ADJ. stubbornly wrongheaded; wicked and unacceptable. When Jack was in a *perverse* mood, he would do the opposite of whatever Jill asked him. When Hannibal Lecter was in a *perverse* mood, he ate the flesh of his victims. *perversity*, N.

**perversion** N. corruption; turning from right to wrong. Inasmuch as he had no motive for his crimes, we could not understand his *perversion*.

**pessimism** N. belief that life is basically bad or evil; gloominess. Considering how well you have done in the course so far, you have no real reason for such *pessimism* about your final grade. *pessimistic*, ADJ.

**pestilential** ADJ. causing plague; baneful. People were afraid to explore the *pestilential* swamp. *pestilence*, N.

**pestle** N. tool for mashing or grinding substances in a hard bowl. From the way in which the elderly pharmacist pounded the drug with his *pestle*, young George could tell that his employer was agitated about something.

**petrify** V. turn to stone. His sudden and unexpected appearance seemed to *petrify* her.

**petty** ADJ. trivial; unimportant; very small. She had no major complaints to make about his work, only a few *petty* quibbles that were almost too minor to state.

**petulant** ADJ. touchy; peevish. If you'd had hardly any sleep for three nights and people kept on phoning and waking you up, you'd sound *petulant*, too. *petulance*, N.

**pharisaical** ADJ. pertaining to the Pharisees, who paid scrupulous attention to tradition; self-righteous; hypocritical. Walter Lippmann has pointed out that moralists who do not attempt to explain the moral code they advocate are often regarded as *pharisaical* and ignored.

**phenomena** N, PL. observable facts; subjects of scientific investigation. We kept careful records of the *phenomena* we noted in the course of these experiments. *phenomenon*, SING.

**philanderer** N. faithless lover; flirt. Swearing he had never so much as looked at another woman, Jack assured Jill he was no *philanderer*.

## Test

### Word List 35      *Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

511. PEJORATIVE (A) positive (B) legal (C) determining (D) delighting (E) declaiming
512. PELLUCID (A) logistical (B) philandering (C) incomprehensible (D) vagrant (E) warranted
513. PENCHANT (A) distance (B) imminence (C) dislike (D) attitude (E) void
514. PENURIOUS (A) imprisoned (B) captivated (C) generous (D) vacant (E) abolished
515. PERFUNCTORY (A) official (B) thorough (C) insipid (D) vicarious (E) distinctive
516. PERIGEE (A) eclipse (B) planet (C) apogee (D) refugee (E) danger

517. PERIPATETIC (A) worldly (B) stationary (C) disarming (D) seeking (E) inherent
518. PERMEABLE (A) parishable (B) effective (C) plodding (D) impenetrable (E) lasting
519. PERNICIOUS (A) practical (B) comparative (C) harmless (D) tangible (E) detailed
520. PERPETUAL (A) momentary (B) standard (C) serious (D) industrial (E) interpretive
521. PERSPICUITY (A) grace (B) feature (C) review (D) difficulty (E) vagueness
522. PERT (A) polite (B) perishable (C) moral (D) deliberate (E) stubborn
523. PERTINACIOUS (A) vengeful (B) consumptive (C) superficial (D) skilled (E) advertised
524. PERTINENT (A) understood (B) living (C) discontented (D) puzzling (E) irrelevant
525. PETULANT (A) angry (B) moral (C) declining (D) underhanded (E) uncomplaining



## Word List 36 philanthropist-precedent

**philanthropist** *n.* lover of mankind; doer of good. In his role as *philanthropist* and public benefactor, John D. Rockefeller, Sr., donated millions to charity; as an individual, however, he was a tight-fisted old man.

**philatelist** *n.* stamp-collector. When she heard the value of the Penny Black stamp, Phyllis was inspired to become a *philatelist*.

**philistine** *n.* narrow-minded person, uncultured and exclusively interested in material gain. We need more men and women of culture and enlightenment; we have too many *philistines* among us.

**philology** *n.* study of language. The professor of *philology* advocated the use of Esperanto as an international language.

■ **phlegmatic** *adj.* calm; not easily disturbed. The nurse was a cheerful but *phlegmatic* person, unexcited in the face of sudden emergencies.

**phobia** *n.* morbid fear. Her fear of flying was more than mere nervousness; it was a real *phobia*.

**phoenix** *n.* symbol of immortality or rebirth. Like the legendary *phoenix* rising from its ashes, the city of San Francisco rose again after its destruction during the 1906 earthquake.

**phylum** *n.* major classification, second to kingdom, of plants and animals; division. In sorting out her hundreds of packets of seeds, Katya decided to file them by *phylum*.

**physiognomy** *n.* face. He prided himself on his ability to analyze a person's character by studying his *physiognomy*.

**physiological** *adj.* pertaining to the science of the function of living organisms. To understand this disease fully, we must examine not only its *physiological* aspects but also its psychological elements.

**piebald** *adj.* of different colors; mottled; spotted. You should be able to identify Polka Dot in this race; he is the only *piebald* horse running.

**piecemeal** *adv.* one part at a time; gradually. Tolstoy's *War and Peace* is too huge to finish in one sitting; I'll have to read it *piecemeal*.

**pie** *adj.* variegated; multicolored. The *Pied Piper* of Hamelin got his name from the multicolored clothing he wore.

■ **piety** *n.* devoutness; reverence for God. Living her life in prayer and good works, Mother Teresa exemplified the true spirit of *piety*. *pious*, *adj.*

**pigment** *n.* coloring matter. Van Gogh mixed various *pigments* with linseed oil to create his paints.

**pillage** *v.* plunder. The enemy *pillaged* the quiet village and left it in ruins. also *n.*

**pillory** *v.* punish by placing in a wooden frame; subject to criticism and ridicule. Even though he was mocked and *pilloried*, he maintained that he was correct in his beliefs. also *n.*

**pine** *v.* languish, decline; long for; yearn. Though she tried to be happy living with Clara in the city, Heidi *ined* for the mountains and for her gruff but loving grandfather.

**pinion** *v.* restrain. They *pinioned* his arms against his body but left his legs free so that he could move about. also *n.*

**pinnacle** *n.* peak. We could see the morning sunlight illuminate the *pinnacle* while the rest of the mountain lay in shadow.

**pious** *adj.* devout; religious. The challenge for church people today is how to be *pious* in the best sense, that is, to be devout without becoming hypocritical or sanctimonious. *piety*, *n.*

**piquant** *adj.* pleasantly tart-tasting; stimulating. The *piquant* sauce added to our enjoyment of the meal. *piquancy*, *n.*

**pique** *n.* irritation; resentment. She showed her *pique* at her loss by refusing to appear with the other contestants at the end of the competition.

**pique** *v.* provoke or arouse; annoy. "I know something you don't know," said Lucy, trying to *pique* Ethel's interest.

**piscatorial** *adj.* pertaining to fishing. He spent many happy hours at the lake in his *piscatorial* activities.

**pitfall** *n.* hidden danger; concealed trap. The preacher warned his flock to beware the *pitfall* of excessive pride, for pride brought on the angels' fall.

**pith** *n.* core or marrow; essence; substance. In preparing a pineapple for the table, first slice it in half and remove the woody central *pith*.

**pithy** *adj.* concise; meaningful; substantial; meaty. While other girls might have gone on and on about how uncool Elton was, Cher summed it up in one *pithy* remark: "He's bogus!"

**pittance** *n.* a small allowance or wage. He could not live on the *pittance* he received as a pension and had to look for an additional source of revenue.

**pivotal** *adj.* central; critical. De Klerk's decision to set Nelson Mandela free was *pivotal*; without Mandela's release, there was no possibility that the African National Congress would entertain talks with the South African government.

■ **placate** *v.* pacify; conciliate. The store manager tried to *placate* the angry customer, offering to replace the damaged merchandise or to give back her money.

**placebo** *n.* harmless substance prescribed as a dummy pill. In a controlled experiment, fifty volunteers were given erythromycin tablets; the control group received only *placebos*.

**placid** *adj.* peaceful; calm. After his vacation in this *placid* section, he felt soothed and rested.

**plagiarize** *v.* steal another's ideas and pass them off as one's own. The teacher could tell that the student had *plagiarized* parts of his essay; she recognized whole paragraphs straight from *Barron's Book Notes*. *plagiarism*, *n.*

**plaintive** *adj.* mournful. The dove has a *plaintive* and melancholy call.

**plait** v. braid; intertwine. The maypole dancers *plaited* bright green ribbons in their hair. also n.

■ **plasticity** n. ability to be molded. When clay dries out, it loses its *plasticity* and becomes less malleable.

■ **platitude** n. trite remark; commonplace statement. In giving advice to his son, old Polonius expressed himself only in *platitudes*; every word out of his mouth was a truism.

**platonic** ADJ. purely spiritual; theoretical; without sensual desire. Accused of impropriety in his dealings with female students, the professor maintained he had only a *platonic* interest in the women involved.

**plaudit** n. enthusiastic approval; round of applause. The theatrical company reprinted the *plaudits* of the critics in its advertisements. *plauditory*, ADJ.

**plausible** ADJ. having a show of truth but open to doubt; specious. Your mother made you stay home from school because she needed you to program the VCR? I'm sorry, you'll have to come up with a more *plausible* excuse than that.

**plebeian** ADJ. common; pertaining to the common people. His speeches were aimed at the *plebeian* minds and emotions; they disgusted the more refined.

**plenary** ADJ. complete; full. The union leader was given *plenary* power to negotiate a new contract with the employers.

**plenitude** n. abundance; completeness. Looking in the pantry, we admired the *plenitude* of fruits and pickles we had preserved during the summer.

■ **plethora** n. excess; overabundance. She offered a *plethora* of excuses for her shortcomings.

**pliable** ADJ. flexible; yielding; adaptable. In remodeling the bathroom, we replaced all the old, rigid lead pipes with new, *pliable* copper tubing.

**pliant** ADJ. flexible; easily influenced. Pinocchio's disposition was *pliant*; he was like putty in his tempters' hands.

**plight** n. condition, state (especially a bad state or condition); predicament. Loggers, unmoved by the *plight* of the spotted owl, plan to keep on felling trees whether or not they ruin the bird's habitat.

**pluck** n. courage. Even the adversaries of young Indiana Jones were impressed by the boy's *pluck* in trying to rescue the archeological treasure they had stolen.

**plumage** n. feathers of a bird. Bird watchers identify different species of birds by their characteristic songs and distinctive *plumage*.

**plumb** v. examine critically in order to understand; measure depth (by sounding). Try as he would, Wetson could never fully *plumb* the depths of Holmes's thought processes.

**plumb** ADJ. vertical. Before hanging wallpaper it is advisable to drop a *plumb* line from the ceiling as a guide. also n.

■ **plummet** v. fall sharply. Stock prices *plummeted* as Wall Street reacted to the rise in interest rates.

**plutocracy** n. society ruled by the wealthy. From the way the government caters to the rich, you might think our society is a *plutocracy* rather than a democracy.

**podiatrist** n. doctor who treats ailments of the feet. He consulted a *podiatrist* about his fallen arches.

**podium** n. pedestal; raised platform. The audience applauded as the conductor made her way to the *podium*.

**poignancy** n. quality of being deeply moving; keenness of emotion. Watching the tearful reunion of the long-separated mother and child, the social worker was touched by the *poignancy* of the scene. *poignant*, ADJ.

**polarize** v. split into opposite extremes or camps. The abortion issue has *polarized* the country into *pro-choice* and *anti-abortion* camps.

**polemic** n. controversy; argument in support of point of view. Her essays were, for the main part, *polemics* for the party's policy.

**polemical** ADJ. aggressive in verbal attack; disputatious. Lexy was a master of *polemical* rhetoric; she should have worn a T-shirt with the slogan "Born to Debate."

**politic** ADJ. expedient; prudent; well devised. Even though he was disappointed, he did not think it *politic* to refuse this offer.

**polity** n. form of government of nation or state. Our *polity* should be devoted to the concept that the government should strive for the good of all citizens.

**polygamist** n. one who has more than one spouse at a time. He was arrested as a *polygamist* when his two wives filed complaints about him.

**polyglot** ADJ. speaking several languages. New York City is a *polyglot* community because of the thousands of immigrants who settle there.

**pomposity** n. self-important behavior; acting like a stuffed shirt. Although the commencement speaker had some good things to say, we had to laugh at his *pomposity* and general air of parading his own dignity. *pompous*, ADJ.

**ponderous** ADJ. weighty; unwieldy. His humor lacked the light touch; his jokes were always *ponderous*.

**pontifical** ADJ. pertaining to a bishop or pope; pompous or pretentious. From the very beginning of his ministry it was clear from his *pontifical* pronouncements that John was destined for a high *pontifical* office.

**pore** v. study industriously; ponder; scrutinize. Determined to become a physician, Beth spends hours *poring* over her anatomy text.

■ **porous** ADJ. full of pores; like a sieve. Dancers like to wear *porous* clothing because it allows the ready passage of water and air.

**portend** v. foretell; presage. The king did not know what these omens might *portend* and asked his soothsayers to interpret them.

**portent** n. sign; omen; forewarning. He regarded the black cloud as a *portent* of evil.

portly ADJ. stout; corpulent. The salesclerk tactfully referred to the overweight customer as *portly* rather than fat.

poseur N. person who pretends to be sophisticated, elegant, etc., to impress others. Some thought Dali was a brilliant painter; others dismissed him as a *poseur*.

posterity N. descendants; future generations. We hope to leave a better world to *posterity*.

posthumous ADJ. after death (as of child born after father's death or book published after author's death). The critics ignored his works during his lifetime; it was only after the *posthumous* publication of his last novel that they recognized his great talent.

postulate N. self-evident truth. We must accept these statements as *postulates* before pursuing our discussions any further, also v.

posture v. assume an affected pose; act artificially. No matter how much Arnold boasted or *postured*, I could not believe he was as important as he pretended to be.

potable ADJ. suitable for drinking. The recent drought in the Middle Atlantic States has emphasized the need for extensive research in ways of making sea water *potable*, also N.

potent ADJ. powerful; persuasive; greatly influential. Looking at the expiration date on the cough syrup bottle, we wondered whether the medication would still be *potent*. potency, N.

potentate N. monarch; sovereign. The *potentate* spent more time at Monte Carlo than he did at home on his throne.

potential ADJ. expressing possibility; latent. This juvenile delinquent is a *potential* murderer, also N.

potion N. dose (of liquid). Tristan and Isolde drink a love *potion* in the first act of the opera.

potpourri N. heterogeneous mixture; medley. The folk singer offered a *potpourri* of songs from many lands.

poultice N. soothing application applied to sore and inflamed portions of the body. She was advised to apply a flaxseed *poultice* to the inflammation.

practicable ADJ. feasible. The board of directors decided that the plan was *practicable* and agreed to undertake the project.

practical ADJ. based on experience; useful. He was a *practical* man, opposed to theory.

■ pragmatic ADJ. practical (as opposed to idealistic); concerned with the practical worth or impact of something. This coming trip to France should provide me with a *pragmatic* test of the value of my conversational French class.

pragmatist N. practical person. No *pragmatist* enjoys becoming involved in a game that he can never win.

prate v. speak foolishly; boast idly. Let us not *prate* about our qualities; rather, let our virtues speak for themselves.

prattle v. babble. Baby John *prattled* on and on about the cats and his ball and the Cookie Monster, also N.

■ preamble N. introductory statement. In the *Preamble* to the Constitution, the purpose of the document is set forth.

■ precarious ADJ. uncertain; risky. Saying the stock was currently overpriced and would be a *precarious* investment, the broker advised her client against purchasing it.

precedent N. something preceding in time that may be used as an authority or guide for future action; an earlier occurrence. The law professor asked Jill to state which famous case served as a *precedent* for the court's decision in *Brown II*. precede, v.

precedent ADJ. preceding in time, rank, etc. Our discussions, *precedent* to this event, certainly did not give you any reason to believe that we would adopt your proposal.

## Test

### Word List 36 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

526. PHLEGMATIC (A) calm (B) cryptic (C) practical (D) salivary (E) dishonest

527. PHYSIOGNOMY (A) posture (B) head (C) physique (D) face (E) size

528. PIEBALD (A) motley (B) coltish (C) hairless (D) thoroughbred (E) delicious

529. PILLAGE (A) hoard (B) plunder (C) versify (D) denigrate (E) confide

530. PINION (A) express (B) report (C) reveal (D) submit (E) restrain

531. PINNACLE (A) foothills (B) card game (C) pass (D) taunt (E) peak

532. PIOUS (A) historic (B) devout (C) multiple (D) fortunate (E) authoritative

533. PIQUE (A) pyramid (B) revolt (C) resentment (D) struggle (E) inventory

534. PLACATE (A) determine (B) transmit (C) pacify (D) allow (E) define

535. PLAGIARISM (A) theft of funds (B) theft of ideas (C) belief in God (D) arson (E) ethical theory

536. PLAINTIVE (A) mournful (B) senseless (C) persistent (D) rural (E) evasive

537. PLATITUDE (A) fatness (B) bravery (C) dimension  
(D) trite remark (E) strong belief
538. POLEMIC (A) blackness (B) lighting  
(C) magnetism (D) controversy (E) grimace

539. PONDEROUS (A) contemplative (B) moist  
(C) rambling (D) bulky (E) erect
540. PRECARIOUS (A) priceless (B) premature  
(C) primitive (D) hazardous (E) unwelcome

## Word List 37 precept-propitiate

**precept** *n.* practical rule guiding conduct. "Love thy neighbor as thyself" is a worthwhile *precept*.

**precipice** *n.* cliff; dangerous position. Suddenly Indiana Jones found himself dangling from the edge of a *precipice*.

**precipitant** *n.* something that causes a substance in a chemical solution to separate out in solid form. Solvents by definition dissolve; *precipitants*, however, cause solids to *precipitate* or form. *precipitate*, *v.*

■ **precipitate** *adj.* rash; premature; hasty; sudden. Though I was angry enough to resign on the spot, I had enough sense to keep myself from quitting a job in such a *precipitate* fashion.

**precipitate** *v.* throw headlong; hasten. The removal of American political support appeared to have *precipitated* the downfall of the Marcos regime.

**precipitous** *adj.* steep; overhasty. This hill is difficult to climb because it is so *precipitous*; one slip, and our descent will be *precipitous* as well.

**précis** *n.* concise summing up of main points. Before making her presentation at the conference, Ellen wrote a neat *précis* of the major elements she would cover.

**precise** *adj.* exact. If you don't give me *precise* directions and a map, I'll never find your place.

**preclude** *v.* make impossible; eliminate. The fact that the band was already booked to play in Hollywood on New Year's Eve *precluded* their accepting the offer of a New Year's Eve gig in London.

**precocious** *adj.* advanced in development. Listening to the grown-up way the child discussed serious topics, we couldn't help remarking how *precocious* she was. *precocity*, *n.*

■ **precursor** *n.* forerunner. Though Grey and Burns share many traits with the Romantic poets who followed them, most critics consider them *precursors* of the Romantic Movement, not true Romantics.

**predator** *n.* creature that eelizes and devours another animal; person who robs or exploits others. Not just cats, but a wide variety of *predators*—owls, hawks, weasels, foxes—catch mice for dinner. A carnivore is by definition *predatory*, for he *preys* on weaker creatures. *predation*, *n.*

**predecessor** *n.* former occupant of a post. I hope I can live up to the fine example set by my late *predecessor* in this office.

**predetermine** *v.* predestine; settle or decide beforehand; influence markedly. Romeo and Juliet believed that Fate had *predetermined* their meeting. Bea gathered estimates from caterers, florists, and stationers so that she

could *predetermine* the costs of holding a catered buffet. Philip's love of athletics *predetermined* his choice of a career in sports marketing.

**predicament** *n.* tricky or dangerous situation; dilemma. Tied to the railroad tracks by the villain, Pauline strained against her bonds. How would she escape from this terrible *predicament*?

**predilection** *n.* partiality; preference. Although the artist used various media from time to time, she had a *predilection* for watercolors.

**predispose** *v.* give an inclination toward; make susceptible to. Oleg's love of dressing up his big sister's Barbie doll may have *predisposed* him to become a fashion designer. Genetic influences apparently *predispose* people to certain forms of cancer. *predisposition*, *n.*

**preeminent** *adj.* outstanding; superior. The king traveled to Boston because he wanted the *preeminent* surgeon in the field to perform the operation.

**preempt** *v.* head off; forestall by acting first; appropriate for oneself; supplant. Hoping to *preempt* any attempts by the opposition to make educational reform a hot political issue, the candidate set out her own plan to revitalize the public schools. *preemptive*, *adj.*

**preen** *v.* make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-satisfaction. As Kitty *preened* before the mirror, carefully smoothing her shining hair, she couldn't help *preening* herself on her good looks.

**prefatory** *adj.* introductory. The chairman made a few *prefatory* remarks before he called on the first speaker.

**prehensile** *adj.* capable of grasping or holding. Monkeys use not only their arms and legs but also their *prehensile* tails in traveling through the trees.

**prelate** *n.* church dignitary. The archbishop of Moscow and other high-ranking *prelates* visited the Russian Orthodox seminary.

**prelude** *n.* introduction; forerunner. I am afraid that this border raid is the *prelude* to more serious attacks.

**premeditate** *v.* plan in advance. She had *premeditated* the murder for months, reading about common poisons and buying weed killer that contained arsenic.

**premise** *n.* assumption; postulate. On the *premise* that there's no fool like an old fool, P. T. Barnum hired a 90-year-old clown for his circus.

**premonition** *n.* forewarning. We ignored these *premonitions* of disaster because they appeared to be based on childish fears.

**premonitory** *adj.* serving to warn. You should have visited a doctor as soon as you felt these *premonitory* chest pains.

**preponderance** N. superiority of power, quantity, etc. The rebels sought to overcome the *preponderance* of strength of the government forces by engaging in guerrilla tactics. **preponderate**, v. **preponderant**, ADJ.

**preposterous** ADJ. absurd; ridiculous. When the candidate tried to downplay his youthful experiments with marijuana by saying he hadn't inhaled, we all thought, "What a *preposterous* excuse!"

**prerogative** N. privilege; unquestionable right. The President cannot levy taxes; that is the *prerogative* of the legislative branch of government.

**presage** v. foretell. The vultures flying overhead *presaged* the discovery of the corpse in the desert.

**prescience** N. ability to foretell the future. Given the current wave of Japan-bashing, it does not take *prescience* for me to foresee problems in our future trade relations with Japan.

**presentiment** N. feeling something will happen; anticipatory fear; premonition. Saying goodbye at the airport, Jack had a sudden *presentiment* that this was the last time he would see Jill.

**prestige** N. impression produced by achievements or reputation. Many students want to go to Harvard University, not for the education offered, but for the *prestige* of Harvard's name. **prestigious**, ADJ.

■ **presumptuous** ADJ. arrogant; taking liberties. It seems *presumptuous* for one so relatively new to the field to challenge the conclusions of its leading experts. **presumption**, N.

**pretentious** ADJ. ostentatious; pompous; making unjustified claims; overambitious. The other prize winner isn't wearing her medal; isn't it a bit *pretentious* of you to wear yours?

**preternatural** ADJ. beyond that which is normal in nature. John's mother's total ability to tell when he was lying struck him as almost *preternatural*.

**pretext** N. excuse. She looked for a good *pretext* to get out of paying a visit to her aunt.

**prevail** v. induce; triumph over. He tried to *prevail* on her to type his essay for him.

**prevalent** ADJ. widespread; generally accepted. A radical committed to social change, Reed had no patience with the conservative views *prevalent* in the America of his day.

■ **prevaricate** v. lie. Some people believe that to *prevaricate* in a good cause is justifiable and regard the statement as a "white lie."

**prey** N. target of a hunt; victim. In *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*, Euell Gibbons has as his *prey* not wild beasts but wild plants. also v.

**prim** ADJ. very precise and formal; exceedingly proper. Many people commented on the contrast between the *prim* attire of the young lady and the inappropriate clothing worn by her escort.

**primogeniture** N. seniority by birth. By virtue of *primogeniture*, in some cultures the first-born child has many privileges denied his brothers and sisters.

**primordial** ADJ. existing at the beginning (of time); rudimentary. The Neanderthal Man is one of our *primordial* ancestors.

**primp** v. groom oneself with care; adorn oneself. The groom stood by idly while his nervous bride-to-be *primped* one last time before the mirror.

■ **pristine** ADJ. characteristic of earlier times; primitive, unspoiled. This area has been preserved in all its *pristine* wildness.

**privation** N. hardship; want. In his youth, he knew hunger and *privation*.

**privy** ADJ. secret; hidden; not public. We do not care for *privy* chamber government.

**probe** v. explore with tools. The surgeon *probed* the wound for foreign matter before suturing it. also N.

■ **probity** N. uprightness; incorruptibility. Everyone took his *probity* for granted; his defalcations, therefore, shocked us all.

■ **problematic** ADJ. doubtful; unsettled; questionable; perplexing. Given the way building costs have exceeded estimates for the job, whether the arena will ever be completed is *problematic*.

**proclivity** N. inclination; natural tendency. Watching the two-year-old voluntarily put away his toys, I was amazed by his *proclivity* for neatness.

**procrastinate** v. postpone; delay or put off. Looking at four years of receipts and checks he still had to sort through, Bob was truly sorry he had *procrastinated* for so long and had not finished filing his taxes long ago.

**procurement** N. obtaining. The personnel department handles the *procurement* of new employees.

**prod** v. poke; stir up; urge. If you *prod* him hard enough, he'll eventually clean his room.

■ **prodigal** ADJ. wasteful; reckless with money. Don't be so *prodigal* spending my money; when you've earned some money, you can waste as much of it as you want! also N.

**prodigious** ADJ. marvelous; enormous. Watching the champion weight lifter heave the weighty barbell to shoulder height and then boost it overhead, we marveled at his *prodigious* strength.

**prodigy** N. highly gifted child; marvel. Menuhin was a *prodigy*, performing wonders on his violin when he was barely eight years old.

**profane** v. violate; desecrate; treat unworthily. The members of the mysterious Far Eastern cult sought to kill the British explorer because he had *profaned* the sanctity of their holy goblet by using it as an ashtray. also ADJ.

**profligate** ADJ. dissipated; wasteful; wildly immoral. Although surrounded by wild and *profligate* companions, she managed to retain some sense of decency. also N.

■ **profound** ADJ. deep; not superficial; complete. Freud's remarkable insights into human behavior caused his fellow scientists to honor him as a *profound* thinker. **profundity**, N.



**profusion** *N.* overabundance; lavish expenditure; excess. Freddy was so overwhelmed by the *profusion* of choices on the menu that he knocked over his wine glass and soaked his host. He made *profuse* apologies to his host, the waiter, the busboy, the people at the next table, and the man in the men's room giving out paper towels.

**progenitor** *N.* ancestor. The Roth family, whose *progenitors* emigrated from Germany early in the nineteenth century, settled in Peru, Illinois.

**progeny** *N.* children; offspring. He was proud of his *progeny* but regarded George as the most promising of all his children.

**prognosis** *N.* forecasted course of a disease; prediction. If the doctor's *prognosis* is correct, the patient will be in a coma for at least twenty-four hours.

**prognosticate** *V.* predict. I *prognosticate* disaster unless we change our wasteful ways.

■ **prohibitive** *ADJ.* tending to prevent the purchase or use of something; inclined to prevent or forbid. Susie wanted to buy a new Volvo but had to settle for a used Dodge because the new car's price was *prohibitive*. **prohibition**, *N.*

**projectile** *N.* missile. Man has always hurled *projectiles* at his enemy whether in the form of stones or of highly explosive shells.

**proletarian** *N.* member of the working class; blue collar guy. "Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains" is addressed to *proletarians*, not *preppies*. also *ADJ.* **proletariat**, *N.*

■ **proliferate** *V.* grow rapidly; spread; multiply. Times of economic hardship inevitably encourage countless get-rich-quick schemes to *proliferate*. **proliferation**, *N.*

**prolific** *ADJ.* abundantly fruitful. She was a *prolific* writer who produced as many as three books a year.

**prolixity** *N.* tedious wordiness; verbosity. A writer who suffers from *prolixity* tells his readers everything they never wanted to know about his subject (or were too bored to ask). **prolix**, *ADJ.*

**prologue** *N.* introduction (to a poem or play). In the *prologue* to *Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare introduces the audience to the feud between the Montagues and the Capulets.

**prolong** *V.* extend; draw out; lengthen. In their determination to discover ways to *prolong* human life, doctors fail to take into account that longer lives are not always happier ones.

**prominent** *ADJ.* conspicuous; notable; protruding. Have you ever noticed that Prince Charles's *prominent* ears make him resemble the big-eared character in *Mad* comics?

**promiscuous** *ADJ.* mixed indiscriminately; haphazard; irregular, particularly sexually. In the opera *La Bohème*, we get a picture of the *promiscuous* life led by the young artists of Paris. **promiscuity**, *N.*

**promontory** *N.* headland. They erected a lighthouse on the *promontory* to warn approaching ships of their nearness to the shore.

**promote** *V.* help to flourish; advance in rank; publicize. Founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman ceaselessly *promotes* the welfare of young people everywhere.

**prompt** *V.* cause; provoke; provide a cue for an actor. Whatever *prompted* you to ask for such a big piece of cake when you're on a diet?

**promulgate** *V.* proclaim a doctrine or law; make known by official publication. When Moses came down from the mountaintop prepared to *promulgate* God's commandments, he was appalled to discover his followers worshipping a golden calf.

**prone** *ADJ.* inclined to; prostrate. She was *prone* to sudden fits of anger during which she would lie *prone* on the floor, screaming and kicking her heels.

**propagate** *V.* multiply; spread. Since bacteria *propagate* more quickly in unsanitary environments, it is important to keep hospital rooms clean.

**propellant** *N.* substance that propels or drives forward. The development of our missile program has forced our scientists to seek more powerful *propellants*. also *ADJ.*

■ **propensity** *N.* natural inclination. Convinced of his own talent, Sol has an unfortunate *propensity* to belittle the talents of others.

**prophetic** *ADJ.* having to do with predicting the future. In interpreting Pharaoh's *prophetic* dream, Joseph said that the seven fat cows eaten by the seven lean cows represented seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. **prophecy**, *N.*

**prophylactic** *ADJ.* used to prevent disease. Despite all *prophylactic* measures introduced by the authorities, the epidemic raged until cool weather set in. **prophylaxis**, *N.*

**propinquity** *N.* nearness; kinship. Their relationship could not be explained as being based on mere *propinquity*. They were more than relatives; they were true friends.

■ **propitiate** *V.* appease. The natives offered sacrifices to *propitiate* the gods.

## Test

### Word List 37     Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is

most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

541. PRECIPITATE (A) dull (B) anticipatory (C) cautious (D) considerate (E) welcome
542. PREFATORY (A) outstanding (B) magnificent (C) conclusive (D) intelligent (E) predatory
543. PRELUDE (A) intermezzo (B) diva (C) aria (D) aftermath (E) duplication
544. PRESUMPTION (A) assertion (B) activation (C) motivation (D) proposition (E) humility
545. PRETENTIOUS (A) ominous (B) calm (C) unassuming (D) futile (E) volatile
546. PRIM (A) informal (B) prior (C) exterior (D) private (E) cautious
547. PRISTINE (A) cultivated (B) condemned (C) irreligious (D) cautious (E) critical
548. PROBITY (A) regret (B) assumption (C) corruptibility (D) extent (E) upswing
549. PRODIGAL (A) large (B) thrifty (C) consistent (D) compatible (E) remote
550. PRODIGIOUS (A) infinitesimal (B) indignant (C) indifferent (D) indisposed (E) insufficient
551. PROFANE (A) sanctify (B) desecrate (C) define (D) manifest (E) urge
552. PROLIFIC (A) unworkable (B) backward (C) barren (D) controversial (E) unfocused
553. PROLIX (A) stupid (B) indifferent (C) redundant (D) livid (E) pithy
554. PROPHYLACTIC (A) causing growth (B) causing disease (C) antagonistic (D) brushing (E) favorable
555. PROPINQUITY (A) remoteness (B) uniqueness (C) health (D) virtue (E) simplicity

## Word List 38 propitious-quarry

**propitious** ADJ. favorable; fortunate; advantageous. Chloe consulted her horoscope to see whether Tuesday would be a *propitious* day to dump her boyfriend.

**proponent** N. supporter; backer; opposite of *opponent*. In the Senate, *proponents* of the universal health care measure lobbied to gain additional support for the controversial legislation.

**propound** V. put forth for analysis. In your discussion, you have *propounded* several questions; let us consider each one separately.

■ **propriety** N. fitness; correct conduct. Miss Manners counsels her readers so that they may behave with *propriety* in any social situation and not embarrass themselves.

**propulsive** ADJ. driving forward. The jet plane has a greater *propulsive* power than the engine-driven plane.

**prosaic** ADJ. dull and unimaginative; matter-of-fact; factual. Though the ad writers had come up with a highly creative campaign to publicize the company's newest product, the head office rejected it for a more *prosaic*, down-to-earth approach.

**proscenium** N. part of stage in front of curtain. In the theater-in-the-round, there can be no *proscenium* or *proscenium* arch; also ADJ.

■ **proscribe** V. ostracize; banish; outlaw. Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus *proscribed* all those who had conspired against Julius Caesar.

**proselytize** V. induce someone to convert to a religion or belief. In these interfaith meetings, there must be no attempt to *proselytize*; we must respect all points of view.

**prosody** N. the art of versification. This book on *prosody* contains a rhyming dictionary as well as samples of the various verse forms.

**prosperity** N. good fortune; financial success; physical well-being. Promising to stay together "for richer, for poorer," the newlyweds vowed to be true to one another in *prosperity* and hardship alike.

**prostrate** V. stretch out full on ground. He *prostrated* himself before the idol; also ADJ.

**protean** ADJ. versatile; able to take on many forms. A remarkably *protean* actor, Alec Guinness could take on any role.

**protégé** N. person receiving protection and support from a patron. Born with an independent spirit, Cyreno de Bergerac refused to be a *protégé* of Cardinal Richelieu.

**protocol** N. diplomatic etiquette. We must run this state dinner according to *protocol* if we are to avoid offending any of our guests.

**prototype** N. original work used as a model by others. The crude typewriter on display in this museum is the *prototype* of the elaborate machines in use today.

**protract** V. prolong. Seeking to delay the union members' vote, the management team tried to *protract* the negotiations endlessly, but the union representatives saw through their strategy.

**protrude** V. stick out. His fingers *protruded* from the holes in his gloves.

**protuberance** N. protrusion; bulge. A ganglionic cyst is a fluid-filled tumor (generally benign) that develops near a joint membrane or tendon sheath, and that bulges beneath the skin, forming a *protuberance*.

**provenance** N. origin or source of something. I am not interested in its *provenance*; I am more concerned with its usefulness than with its source.

**provender** *N.* dry food; fodder. I am not afraid of a severe winter because I have stored a large quantity of *provender* for the cattle.

**provident** *ADJ.* displaying foresight; thrifty; preparing for emergencies. In his usual *provident* manner, he had insured himself against this type of loss.

**provincial** *ADJ.* pertaining to a province; limited in outlook; unsophisticated. As *provincial* governor, Sir Henry administered the Queen's law in his remote corner of Canada. Caught up in local problems, out of touch with London news, he became sadly *provincial*.

**provisional** *ADJ.* tentative. Kim's acceptance as an American Express cardholder was *provisional* before issuing her a card. American Express wanted to check her employment record and credit history.

**proviso** *N.* stipulation. I am ready to accept your proposal with the *proviso* that you meet your obligations within the next two weeks.

**provocative** *ADJ.* arousing anger or interest; annoying. In a typically *provocative* act, the bully kicked sand into the weaker man's face. *provoke*, *v.* provocation, *N.*

**prowess** *N.* extraordinary ability; military bravery. Performing triple axels and double lutzes at the age of six, the young figure skater was world famous for her *prowess* on the ice.

**proximity** *N.* nearness. Blind people sometimes develop a compensatory ability to sense the *proximity* of objects around them.

**proxy** *N.* authorized agent. Please act as my *proxy* and vote for this slate of candidates in my absence.

**prude** *N.* excessively modest or proper person. The X-rated film was definitely not for *prudes*.

**prudent** *ADJ.* cautious; careful. A miser hoards money not because he is *prudent* but because he is greedy. *prudence*, *N.*

**prune** *V.* cut away; trim. With the help of her editor, she was able to *prune* her manuscript into publishable form.

**prurient** *ADJ.* having or causing lustful thoughts and desires. Aroused by his *prurient* impulses, the dirty old man leered at the sweet young thing and offered to give her a sample of his "prowess"; his *prurience* appalled her.

**pry** *V.* inquire impertinently; use leverage to raise or open something. Though Nora claimed she didn't mean to *pry*, everyone knew she was just plain nosy. With a crowbar Long John Silver *pried* up the lid of the treasure chest.

**pseudonym** *N.* pen name. Samuel Clemens' *pseudonym* was Mark Twain.

**psyche** *N.* soul; mind. It is difficult to delve into the *psyche* of a human being.

**psychiatrist** *N.* a doctor who treats mental diseases. A *psychiatrist* often needs long conferences with his patient before a diagnosis can be made.

**psychopathic** *ADJ.* pertaining to mental derangement. The *psychopathic* patient suffers more frequently from a

disorder of the nervous system than from a diseased brain.

**psychosis** *N.* mental disorder. We must endeavor to find an outlet for the patient's repressed desires if we hope to combat this *psychosis*. *psychotic*, *ADJ.*

**pterodactyl** *N.* extinct flying reptile. The remains of *pterodactyls* indicate that these flying reptiles had a wingspan of as much as twenty feet.

**puerile** *ADJ.* childish. His *puerile* pranks sometimes offended his more mature friends.

**pugilist** *N.* boxer. The famous *pugilist* Cassius Clay changed his name to Muhammed Ali.

**pugnacity** *N.* combativeness; disposition to fight. "Put up your dukes!" he cried, making a fist to show his *pugnacity*. *pugnacious*, *ADJ.*

**puissant** *ADJ.* powerful; strong; potent. We must keep his friendship for he will make a *puissant* ally.

**pulchritude** *N.* beauty; comeliness. I do not envy the judges who have to select this year's Miss America from this collection of female *pulchritude*.

**pulmonary** *ADJ.* pertaining to the lungs. In his researches on *pulmonary* diseases, he discovered many facts about the lungs of animals and human beings.

**pulsate** *V.* throb. We could see the blood vessels in his temple *pulsate* as he became more angry.

**pulverize** *V.* crush or grind into very small particles. Before sprinkling the dried herbs into the stew, Michael first *pulverized* them into a fine powder.

**pummel** *V.* beat or pound with fists. Swinging wildly, Pammy *pummeled* her brother around the head and shoulders.

**punctilious** *ADJ.* stressing niceties of conduct or form; minutely attentive (perhaps too much so) to fine points. Percy is *punctilious* about observing the rules of etiquette whenever Miss Manners invites him to stay. *punctiliousness*, *N.*

**pundit** *N.* authority on a subject; learned person; expert. Some authors who write about the GRE as if they are *pundits* actually know very little about the test.

■ **pungent** *ADJ.* stinging; sharp in taste or smell; caustic. The *pungent* odor of ripe Limburger cheese appealed to Simone but made Stanley gag. *pungency*, *N.*

**punitive** *ADJ.* punishing. He asked for *punitive* measures against the offender.

**puny** *ADJ.* insignificant; tiny; weak. Our *puny* efforts to stop the flood were futile.

**purchase** *N.* firm grasp or footing. The mountaineer struggled to get a proper *purchase* on the slippery rock.

**purgatory** *N.* place of spiritual expiation. In this *purgatory*, he could expect no help from his comrades.

**purge** *V.* remove or get rid of something unwanted; free from blame or guilt; cleanse or purify. The Communist government *purged* the party to get rid of members suspected of capitalist sympathies, sending those believed to be disloyal to labor camps in Siberia. also *N.*

**purport** *n.* intention; meaning. If the *purport* of your speech was to arouse the rabble, you succeeded admirably. also *v.*

**purported** *ADJ.* alleged; claimed; reputed or rumored. The *purported* Satanists sacrificing live roosters in the park turned out to be a party of Shriners holding a chicken barbecue.

**purse** *v.* pucker; contract into wrinkles. Miss Watson *purse*d her lips to show her disapproval of Huck's bedraggled appearance.

**purveyor** *n.* furnisher of foodstuffs; caterer. As *purveyor* of rare wines and viands, he traveled through France and Italy every year in search of new products to sell.

**pusillanimous** *ADJ.* cowardly; fainthearted. You should be ashamed of your *pusillanimous* conduct during this dispute. *pusillanimity*, *n.*

**putative** *ADJ.* supposed; reputed. Although there are some doubts, the *putative* author of this work is Massinger.

**putrid** *ADJ.* foul; rotten; decayed. When the doctor removed the bandages, the *putrid* smell indicated that the wound had turned gangrenous. *putrescence*, *putrefaction*, *n.*

**pylon** *n.* marking post to guide aviators; steel tower supporting cables or telephone lines. Amelia Earhart carefully banked her airplane as she followed the line of *pylons* set up to mark the course of the Great Plane Race.

**pyromaniac** *n.* person with an insane desire to set things on fire. The detectives searched the area for the *pyromaniac* who had set these costly fires.

**quack** *n.* charlatan; impostor. Do not be misled by the exorbitant claims of this *quack*; he cannot cure you.

**quadruped** *n.* four-footed animal. Most mammals are *quadrupeds*.

**quaff** *v.* drink with relish. As we *quaffed* our ale, we listened to the gay songs of the students in the tavern.

**quagmire** *n.* soft, wet, boggy land; complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself. Up to her knees in mud, Myra wondered how on earth she was going to extricate herself from this *quagmire*.

**quail** *v.* cower; lose heart. He was afraid that he would *quail* in the face of danger.

**quaint** *ADJ.* odd; old-fashioned; picturesque. Her *quaint* clothes and old-fashioned language marked her as an eccentric.

■ **qualified** *ADJ.* limited; restricted. Unable to give the candidate full support, the mayor gave him only a *qualified* endorsement. (secondary meaning)

**qualms** *n.* misgivings; uneasy fears, especially about matters of conscience. I have no *qualms* about giving this assignment to Helen; I know she will handle it admirably.

**quandary** *n.* dilemma. When both Harvard and Stanford accepted Laura, she was in a *quandary* as to which school she should attend.

**quarantine** *n.* isolation of a person, place, or ship to prevent spread of infection. We will have to place this house under *quarantine* until we determine the exact nature of the disease. also *v.*

**quarry** *n.* victim; object of a hunt. The police closed in on their *quarry*.

**quarry** *v.* dig into. They *quarried* blocks of marble out of the hillside.

## Test

### Word List 38

### Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

556. PROPITIOUS (A) rich (B) induced (C) promoted (D) indicative (E) unfavorable

557. PROSAIC (A) pacified (B) reprieved (C) pensive (D) imaginative (E) rhetorical

558. PROTEAN (A) amateur (B) catholic (C) unchanging (D) rapid (E) unfavorable

559. PROTRACT (A) make circular (B) shorten (C) further (D) retrace (E) involve

560. PROVIDENT (A) unholy (B) rash (C) miserable (D) disabled (E) remote

561. PROVINCIAL (A) wealthy (B) crass (C) literary (D) aural (E) sophisticated

562. PSYCHOTIC (A) dangerous (B) clairvoyant (C) criminal (D) soulful (E) sane

563. PUERILE (A) fragrant (B) adult (C) lonely (D) feminine (E) masterly

564. PUGNACIOUS (A) pacific (B) feline (C) mature (D) angular (E) inactive

565. PUISSANT (A) pouring (B) fashionable (C) articulate (D) healthy (E) weak

566. PULCHRITUDE (A) ugliness (B) notoriety (C) bestiality (D) masculinity (E) servitude

567. PUNCTILIOUS (A) happy (B) active (C) vivid (D) careless (E) futile

568. PUNITIVE (A) large (B) humorous (C) rewarding (D) restive (E) languishing

569. PUSILLANIMOUS (A) poverty-stricken (B) chained (C) posthumous (D) courageous (E) strident

570. PUTATIVE (A) colonial (B) quarrelsome (C) undisputed (D) powerful (E) unremarkable

## Word List 39 quash-recurrent

**quash** v. subdue; crush; squash. The authorities acted quickly to *quash* the student rebellion, sending in tanks to cow the demonstrators.

**quay** n. dock; landing place. Because of the captain's carelessness, the ship crashed into the *quay*.

**queasy** ADJ. easily nauseated; squeamish. Remember that great chase movie, the one with the carsick passenger? That's right: *Queasy Rider*!

**quell** v. extinguish; put down; quiet. Miss Minchin's demeanor was so stern and forbidding that she could *quell* any unrest among her students with one intimidating glance.

**quench** v. douse or extinguish; assuage or satisfy. What's the favorite song of the Fire Department? "Baby, *Quench My Fire*!" After Bob ate the heavily salted popcorn, he had to drink a pitcherful of water to *quench* his thirst.

**querulous** ADJ. fretful; whining. Even the most agreeable toddlers can begin to act *querulous* if they miss their nap.

**query** n. inquiry; question. In her column "Ask Beth," the columnist invites young readers to send their *queries* about life and love to her. also v.

**queue** n. line. They stood patiently in the *queue* outside the movie theatre.

■ **quibble** n. minor objection or complaint. Aside from a few hundred teensy-weensy *quibbles* about the set, the script, the actors, the director, the costumes, the lighting, and the props, the hypercritical critic loved the play. also v.

■ **quiescent** ADJ. at rest; dormant; temporarily inactive. After the devastating eruption, fear of Mount Etna was great; people did not return to cultivate its rich hillside lands until the volcano had been *quiescent* for a full two years. *quiescence*, n.

**quietude** n. tranquillity. He was impressed by the air of *quietude* and peace that pervaded the valley.

**quintessence** n. purest and highest embodiment. Noel Coward displayed the *quintessence* of wit.

**quip** n. taunt. You are unpopular because you are too free with your *quips* and sarcastic comments. also v.

**quirk** n. startling twist; caprice. By a *quirk* of fate, he found himself working for the man whom he had discharged years before.

**quisling** n. traitor who aids invaders. In his conquest of Europe, Hitler was aided by the *quislings* who betrayed their own people and served in the puppet governments established by the Nazis.

**quiver** n. case for arrows. Robin Hood reached back and plucked one last arrow from his *quiver*. (secondary meaning)

**quiver** v. tremble; shake. The bird dog's nose twitched and his whiskers *quivered* as he strained eagerly against the leash. also n.

**quixotic** ADJ. idealistic but impractical. Constantly coming up with *quixotic*, unworkable schemes to save the world, Simon has his heart in the right place, but his head is somewhere off in the clouds.

**quizzical** ADJ. teasing; bantering; mocking; curious. When the skinny teenager tripped over his own feet stepping into the bullpen, Coach raised one *quizzical* eyebrow, shook his head, and said, "Okay, kid. You're here; let's see what you've got."

**quorum** n. number of members necessary to conduct a meeting. The senator asked for a roll call to determine whether a *quorum* was present.

**quotidian** ADJ. daily; commonplace; customary. To Philip, each new day of his internship was filled with excitement; he could not dismiss his rounds as merely *quotidian* routine.

**rabid** ADJ. like a fanatic; furious. He was a *rabid* follower of the Dodgers and watched them play whenever he could go to the ballpark.

**raconteur** n. story-teller. My father was a gifted *raconteur* with an unlimited supply of anecdotes.

**ragamuffin** n. person wearing tattered clothes. He felt sorry for the *ragamuffin* who was begging for food and gave him money to buy a meal.

**rail** v. scold; rant. You may *rail* at him all you want; you will never change him.

**raiment** n. clothing. "How can I go to the ball?" asked Cinderella. "I have no *raiment* fit to wear."

**rakish** ADJ. stylish; sporty. He wore his hat at a *rakish* and jaunty angle.

**rally** v. call up or summon (forces, vital powers, etc.); revive or recuperate. Washington quickly *rallied* his troops to fight off the British attack. The patient had been sinking throughout the night, but at dawn she *relied* and made a complete recovery. also n.

**ramble** v. wander aimlessly (physically or mentally). Listening to the teacher *ramble*, Judy wondered whether he'd ever get to his point. also n.

**ramification** n. branching out; subdivision. We must examine all the *ramifications* of this problem.

**ramify** v. divide into branches or subdivisions. When the plant begins to *ramify*, it is advisable to nip off most of the new branches.

**ramp** n. slope; inclined plane. The house was built with *ramps* instead of stairs in order to enable the man in the wheelchair to move easily from room to room and floor to floor.

**rampant** ADJ. growing in profusion; unrestrained. The *rampant* weeds in the garden choked the asters and marigolds until the flowers died. *rampancy*, n.

**rampart** n. defensive mound of earth. "From the *ramparts* we watched" as the fighting continued.

**ramshackle** ADJ. rickety; falling apart. The boys propped up the *ramshackle* clubhouse with a couple of boards.

**rancid** ADJ. having the odor of stale fat. A *rancid* odor filled the ship's galley and nauseated the crew.

**rancor** N. bitterness; hatred. Thirty years after the war, she could not let go of the past but was still consumed with *rancor* against the foe. *rancorous*, ADJ.

**random** ADJ. without definite purpose, plan, or aim; haphazard. Although the sponsor of the raffle claimed all winners were chosen at *random*, people had their suspicions when the grand prize went to the sponsor's brother-in-law.

**rankle** V. irritate; fester. The memory of having been jilted *rankled* him for years.

**rant** V. rave; talk excitedly; scold; make a grandiloquent speech. When he heard that I'd totaled the family car, Dad began to *rant* at me like a complete madman.

**rapacious** ADJ. excessively grasping; plundering. Hawks and other *rapacious* birds prey on a variety of small animals.

**rapproach** N. emotional closeness; harmony. In team teaching, it is important that all teachers in the group have good *rapproach* with one another.

**rapt** ADJ. absorbed; enchanted. Caught up in the wonder of the storyteller's tale, the *rapt* listeners sat motionless, hanging on his every word.

■ **rarefied** ADJ. made less dense [of a gas]. The mountain climbers had difficulty breathing in the *rarefied* atmosphere. *rarefy*, V. rarefaction, N.

**raspy** ADJ. grating; harsh. The sergeant's *raspy* voice grated on the recruits' ears.

**ratify** V. approve formally; confirm; verify. Party leaders doubted that they had enough votes in both houses of Congress to *ratify* the constitutional amendment.

**ratiocination** N. reasoning; act of drawing conclusions from premises. While Watson was a man of average intelligence, Holmes was a genius, whose gift for *ratiocination* made him a superb detective.

**rationale** N. fundamental reason or justification; grounds for an action. Her need for a vehicle large enough to accommodate five children and a Saint Bernard was Judy's *rationale* for buying a minivan.

**rationalize** V. give a plausible reason for an action in place of a true, less admirable one; offer an excuse. When David refused gabby Gabrielle a ride to the dance because, he said, he had no room in the car, he was *rationalizing*; actually, he couldn't stand being cooped up in a car with anyone who talked as much as she did. *rationalization*, N.

**raucous** ADJ. harsh and shrill; disorderly and boisterous. The *raucous* crowd of New Year's Eve revelers grew progressively noisier as midnight drew near.

**ravage** V. plunder; despoil. The marauding army *ravaged* the countryside.

**rave** N. overwhelmingly favorable review. Though critic John Simon seldom has a good word to say about contemporary plays, his review of *All in the Timing* was a total *rave*.

**ravel** V. fall apart into tangles; unravel or untwist; entangle. A single thread pulled loose, and the entire scarf started to *ravel*.

**ravenous** ADJ. extremely hungry. The *ravenous* dog upset several garbage pails in its search for food.

**ravine** N. narrow valley with steep sides. Steeper than a gully, less precipitous than a canyon, a *ravine* is, like them, the product of years of erosion.

**raze** V. destroy completely. Spelling matters: to raise a building is to put it up; to *raze* a building is to tear it down.

**reactionary** ADJ. opposing progress; politically ultraconservative. Opposing the use of English in worship services, *reactionary* forces in the church fought to reinstate the mass in Latin. also N.

**realm** N. kingdom; field or sphere. In the animal *realm*, the lion is the king of beasts.

**reaper** N. one who harvests grain. Death, the Grim Reaper, cuts down mortal men and women, just as a farmer cuts down the ripened grain.

**rebate** N. discount. We offer a *rebate* of ten percent to those who pay cash.

**rebuff** V. snub; beat back. She *rebuffed* his invitation so smoothly that he did not realize he had been snubbed. also N.

**rebuke** V. scold harshly; criticize severely. No matter how sharply Miss Watson *rebuked* Huck for his misconduct, he never talked back but just stood there like a stump. also N.

**rebus** N. puzzle in which pictures stand for words. A coven of witches beside a tree is a possible *rebus* for the town Coventry.

**rebuttal** N. refutation; response with contrary evidence. The defense lawyer confidently listened to the prosecutor sum up his case, sure that she could answer his arguments in her *rebuttal*.

■ **recalcitrant** ADJ. obstinately stubborn; determined to resist authority; unruly. Which animal do you think is more *recalcitrant*, a pig or a mule?

■ **recant** V. disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement; openly confess error. Hoping to make Joan of Arc *recant* her sworn testimony, her English captors tried to convince her that her visions had been sent to her by the Devil.

**recapitulate** V. summarize. Let us *recapitulate* what has been said thus far before going ahead.

**recast** V. reconstruct (a sentence, story, etc.); fashion again. Let me *recast* this sentence in terms your feeble brain can grasp: in words of one syllable, you are a fool.

**receptive** ADJ. quick or willing to receive ideas, suggestions, etc. Adventure-loving Huck Finn proved a *receptive* audience for Tom's tales of buried treasure and piracy.

**recession** N. withdrawal; retreat; time of low economic activity. The slow *recession* of the flood waters created problems for the crews working to restore power to the area.

**recidivism** N. habitual return to crime. Prison reformers in the United States are disturbed by the high rate of *recidivism*.



vism; the number of persons serving second and third terms indicates the failure of the prisons to rehabilitate the inmates.

**recipient** N. receiver. Although he had been the *recipient* of many favors, he was not grateful to his benefactor.

**reciprocal** ADJ. mutual; exchangeable; interacting. The two nations signed a *reciprocal* trade agreement.

**reciprocate** V. repay in kind. If they attack us, we shall be compelled to *reciprocate* and bomb their territory. *reciprocity*, N.

■ **recluse** N. hermit; loner. Disappointed in love, Miss Emily became a *recluse*; she shut herself away in her empty mansion and refused to see another living soul. *reclusive*, ADJ.

**reconcile** V. correct inconsistencies; become friendly after a quarrel. Every time we try to *reconcile* our check-book with the bank statement, we quarrel. However, despite these monthly lovers' quarrels, we always manage to *reconcile*.

■ **recondite** ADJ. abstruse; profound; secret. He read many *recondite* books in order to obtain the material for his scholarly thesis.

**reconnaissance** N. survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoitering. If you encounter any enemy soldiers during your *reconnaissance*, capture them for questioning.

**recount** V. narrate or tell; count over again. About to *recount* the latest adventure of Sherlock Holmes, Watson lost track of exactly how many cases Holmes had solved and refused to begin his tale until he'd *recounted* them one by one.

**recourse** N. resorting to help when in trouble. The boy's only *recourse* was to appeal to his father for aid.

**recrimination** N. countercharges. Loud and angry *recriminations* were her answer to his accusations.

**rectify** V. set right; correct. You had better send a check to *rectify* your account before American Express cancels your credit card.

**rectitude** N. uprightness; moral virtue; correctness of judgment. The Eagle Scout was a model of *rectitude*; smugness was the only flaw he needed to correct.

**recumbent** ADJ. reclining; lying down completely or in part. The command "AT EASE" does not permit you to take a *recumbent* position.

**recuperate** V. recover. The doctors were worried because the patient did not *recuperate* as rapidly as they had expected.

**recurrent** ADJ. occurring again and again. These *recurrent* attacks disturbed us and we consulted a physician.

## Test

### Word List 39      *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

571. QUEASY (A) toxic (B) easily upset (C) chronic (D) choleric (E) false
572. QUELL (A) boast (B) incite (C) reverse (D) wet (E) answer
573. QUIXOTIC (A) rapid (B) exotic (C) longing (D) timid (E) idealistic
574. RAGAMUFFIN (A) dandy (B) miser (C) exotic dance (D) light snack (E) baker
575. RAUCOUS (A) mellifluous (B) uncooked (C) realistic (D) veracious (E) anticipating
576. RAVAGE (A) rankle (B) revive (C) plunder (D) pillory (E) age
577. RAZE (A) shave (B) heckle (C) finish (D) tear down (E) write
578. REACTIONARY (A) conservative (B) retrograde (C) dramatist (D) militant (E) chemical
579. REBATE (A) relinquish (B) settle (C) discount (D) cancel (E) elicit
580. RECALCITRANT (A) grievous (B) secretive (C) cowardly (D) thoughtful (E) cooperative
581. RECLUSE (A) learned scholar (B) mocker (C) social person (D) careful worker (E) daredevil
582. RECONDITE (A) unfriendly (B) easily comprehensible (C) closely juxtaposed (D) broadminded (E) sardonic
583. RECTIFY (A) remedy (B) avenge (C) create (D) assemble (E) attribute
584. RECUPERATE (A) reenact (B) engage (C) recapitulate (D) recover (E) encounter
585. RECURRENT (A) happening repeatedly (B) flowing backward (C) healing quickly (D) eventful (E) timely

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## Word List 40 redolent-requite

**redolent** ADJ. fragrant; odorous; suggestive of an odor. Even though it is February, the air is *redolent* of spring.

**redoubtable** ADJ. formidable; causing fear. During the Cold War period, neighboring countries tried not to offend the Russians because they could be *redoubtable* foes.

**redress** N. remedy; compensation. Do you mean to tell me that I can get no *redress* for my injuries? also v.

**redundant** ADJ. superfluous; repetitious; excessively wordy. The bottle of wine I brought to Bob's party was certainly *redundant*; how was I to know Bob owned a winery? In your essay, you repeat several points unnecessarily; try to avoid *redundancy* in the future.

**reek** V. emit (odor). The room *reeked* with stale tobacco smoke. also N.

**refectory** N. dining hall. In this huge *refectory*, we can feed the entire student body at one sitting.

**refraction** N. bending of a ray of light. When you look at a stick inserted in water, it looks bent because of the *refraction* of the light by the water.

■ **refractory** ADJ. stubborn; unmanageable. The *refractory* horse was eliminated from the race when he refused to obey the jockey.

**refrain** V. abstain from; resist. N. chorus. Whenever he heard a song with a lively chorus, Sol could never *refrain* from joining in on the *refrain*.

**refulgent** ADJ. brightly shining; gleaming. The squire polished the knight's armor until it gleamed in the light like the *refulgent* moon.

**refurbish** V. renovate; make bright by polishing. The flood left a deposit of mud on everything; it was necessary to *refurbish* our belongings.

■ **refute** V. disprove. The defense called several respectable witnesses who were able to *refute* the false testimony of the prosecution's only witness. *refutation*, N.

**regal** ADJ. royal. Prince Albert had a *regal* manner.

**regale** V. entertain. John *regaled* us with tales of his adventures in Africa.

**regatta** N. boat or yacht race. Many boating enthusiasts followed the *regatta* in their own yachts.

**regeneration** N. spiritual rebirth. Modern penologists strive for the *regeneration* of the prisoners.

**regicide** N. murder of a king or queen. The beheading of Mary Queen of Scots was an act of *regicide*.

**regime** N. method or system of government. When a Frenchman mentions the Old *Regime*, he refers to the government existing before the revolution.

**regimen** N. prescribed diet and habits. I doubt whether the results warrant our living under such a strict *regimen*.

**rehabilitate** V. restore to proper condition. We must *rehabilitate* those whom we send to prison.

**reimburse** V. repay. Let me know what you have spent and I will *reimburse* you.

**reiterate** V. repeat. She *reiterated* the warning to make sure everyone understood it.

**rejoinder** N. retort; comeback; reply. When someone has been rude to me, I find it particularly satisfying to come up with a quick *rejoinder*.

**rejuvenate** V. make young again. The charlatan claimed that his elixir would *rejuvenate* the aged and weary.

■ **relegate** V. banish to an inferior position; delegate; assign. After Ralph dropped his second tray of drinks that week, the manager swiftly *relegated* him to a minor post cleaning up behind the bar.

**relent** V. give in. When her stern father would not *relent* and allow her to marry Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett eloped with her suitor. *relentless*, ADJ.

**relevant** ADJ. pertinent; referring to the case in hand. Teri was impressed by how *relevant* Virginia Woolf's remarks were to her as a woman writer; it was as if Woolf had been writing with Teri's situation in mind. *relevance*, N. *relevancy*, N.

**relic** N. surviving remnant; memento. Egypt's Department of Antiquities prohibits tourists from taking mummies and other ancient *relics* out of the country. Mike keeps his photos of his trip to Egypt in a box with other *relics* of his travels.

**relinquish** V. give up something with reluctance; yield. Once you get used to fringe benefits like expense-account meals and a company car, it's very hard to *relinquish* them.

**relish** V. savor; enjoy. Watching Peter enthusiastically chow down, I thought, "Now there's a man who *relishes* a good dinner!" also N.

**remediable** ADJ. repairable. Let us be grateful that the damage is *remediable*.

**reminiscence** N. recollection. Her *reminiscences* of her experiences are so fascinating that she ought to write a book.

**remiss** ADJ. negligent. When the prisoner escaped, the guard was accused of being *remiss* in his duty.

**remission** N. temporary moderation of disease symptoms; cancellation of a debt; forgiveness or pardon. Though Senator Tsongas had been treated for cancer, his symptoms were in *remission*, and he was considered fit to handle the strains of a presidential race.

**remnant** N. remainder. I suggest that you wait until the store places the *remnants* of these goods on sale.

**remonstrance** N. protest; objection. The authorities were deaf to the pastor's *remonstrances* about the lack of police protection in the area. *remonstrate*, V.

**remorse** N. guilt; self-reproach. The murderer felt no *remorse* for his crime.

**remunerative** ADJ. compensating; rewarding. I find my new work so *remunerative* that I may not return to my previous employment. *remuneration*, N.

**rend** v. split; tear apart. In his grief, he tried to *rend* his garments. *rent*, n.

**render** v. deliver; provide; represent. He *rendered* aid to the needy and indigent.

**rendezvous** n. meeting place. The two fleets met at the *rendezvous* at the appointed time. also v.

**rendition** n. translation; artistic interpretation of a song, etc. The audience cheered enthusiastically as she completed her *rendition* of the aria.

**renegade** n. deserter; traitor. Because he had abandoned his post and joined forces with the Indians, his fellow officers considered the hero of *Dances with Wolves* a *renegade*. also *ADJ.*

**renege** v. deny; go back on. He *reneged* on paying off his debt.

**renounce** v. abandon; disown; repudiate. Even though she knew she would be burned at the stake as a witch, Joan of Arc refused to *renounce* her belief that her voices came from God. *renunciation*, n.

**renovate** v. restore to good condition; renew. They claim that they can *renovate* worn shoes so that they look like new ones.

**renown** n. fame. For many years an unheralded researcher, Barbara McClintock gained international *renown* when she won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine. *renowned*, *ADJ.*

**rent** n. rip; split. Kit did an excellent job of mending the *rent* in the lining of her coat. *rend*, v.

**reparable** *ADJ.* capable of being repaired. Fortunately, the damages we suffered in the accident were *reparable* and our car looks brand new.

**reparation** n. amends; compensation. At the peace conference, the defeated country promised to pay *reparations* to the victors.

**repartee** n. clever reply. He was famous for his witty *repartee* and his sarcasm.

**repast** n. meal; feast; banquet. The caterers prepared a delicious *repast* for Fred and Judy's wedding day.

**repeal** v. revoke; annul. What would the effect on our society be if we decriminalized drug use by *repealing* the laws against the possession and sale of narcotics?

**repel** v. drive away; disgust. At first, the Beast's ferocious appearance *repelled* Beauty, but she came to love the tender heart hidden behind that beastly exterior.

**repellent** *ADJ.* driving away; unattractive. Mosquitoes find the odor so *repellent* that they leave any spot where this liquid has been sprayed. also n.

**repercussion** n. rebound; reverberation; reaction. I am afraid that this event will have serious *repercussions*.

**repertoire** n. list of works of music, drama, etc., a performer is prepared to present. The opera company decided to include *Madame Butterfly* in its *repertoire* for the following season.

**repine** v. fret; complain. There is no sense *repining* over the work you have left undone.

**replenish** v. fill up again. Before she could take another backpacking trip, Carla had to *replenish* her stock of freeze-dried foods.

**replete** *ADJ.* filled to the brim or to the point of being stuffed; abundantly supplied. The movie star's memoir was *replete* with juicy details about the love life of half of Hollywood.

**replica** n. copy. Are you going to hang this *replica* of the Declaration of Independence in the classroom or in the auditorium?

**replicate** v. reproduce; duplicate. Because he had always wanted a palace, Donald decided to *replicate* the Taj Mahal in miniature on his estate.

**repository** n. storehouse. Libraries are *repositories* of the world's best thoughts.

**reprehensible** *ADJ.* deserving blame. Shocked by the viciousness of the bombing, politicians of every party uniformly condemned the terrorists' *reprehensible* deed.

**repress** v. restrain; crush; oppress. Anne's parents tried to curb her impetuosity without *repressing* her boundless high spirits.

**reprieve** n. temporary stay. During the twenty-four-hour *reprieve*, the lawyers sought to make the stay of execution permanent. also v.

**reprimand** v. reprove severely; rebuke. Every time Ermengarde made a mistake in class, she was afraid that Miss Minchin would *reprimand* her and tell her father how badly she was doing in school. also n.

**reprisal** n. retaliation. I am confident that we are ready for any *reprisals* the enemy may undertake.

**reprise** n. musical repetition; repeat performance; recurrent action. We enjoyed the soprano's solo in Act I so much that we were delighted by its *reprise* in the finale. At Waterloo, it was not the effect of any one skirmish that exhausted Colonel Audley; rather, it was the cumulative effect of the constant *reprises* that left him spent.

■ **reproach** v. express disapproval or disappointment. He never could do anything wrong without imagining how the look on his mother's face would *reproach* him afterwards. also n. *reproachful*, *ADJ.*

■ **reprobate** n. person hardened in sin, devoid of a sense of decency. I cannot understand why he has so many admirers if he is the *reprobate* you say he is.

**reprobation** n. severe disapproval. The students showed their *reprobation* of his act by refusing to talk with him.

**reprove** v. censure; rebuke. Though Aunt Bea at times would *reprove* Opie for inattention in church, she believed he was at heart a God-fearing lad. *reproof*, n.

■ **repudiate** v. disown; disavow. On separating from Tony, Tina announced that she would *repudiate* all debts incurred by her soon-to-be ex-husband.

**repugnance** n. loathing. She looked at the snake with *repugnance*.

**repulsion** n. distaste; act of driving back. Hating bloodshed, she viewed war with *repulsion*. Even defensive battles distressed her, for the *repulsion* of enemy forces is never accomplished bloodlessly. *repulse*, v.

**reputable** ADJ. respectable. If you want to buy antiques, look for a *reputable* dealer; far too many dealers today pass off fakes as genuine antiques.

**reputed** ADJ. supposed. He is the *reputed* father of the child. *repute*, v. *repute*, n.

**requiem** N. mass for the dead; dirge. They played Mozart's *Requiem* at the funeral.

## Test

### Word List 40 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

586. REFRACTORY (A) articulate (B) sinkable (C) vaunted (D) useless (E) unmanageable
587. REGAL (A) oppressive (B) royal (C) major (D) basic (E) entertaining
588. REITERATE (A) gainsay (B) revive (C) revenge (D) repeat (E) return
589. RELISH (A) desire (B) nibble (C) savor (D) vindicate (E) avail
590. REMISS (A) lax (B) lost (C) foolish (D) violating (E) ambitious
591. REMONSTRATE (A) display (B) restate (C) protest (D) resign (E) reiterate

**requisite** N. necessary requirement. Many colleges state that a student must offer three years of a language as a *requisite* for admission.

**requite** v. repay, revenge. The wretch *requited* his benefactors by betraying them.

592. REPARTEE (A) witty retort (B) willful departure (C) spectator (D) monologue (E) sacrifice
593. REPELLENT (A) propulsive (B) unattractive (C) porous (D) stiff (E) elastic
594. REPERCUSSION (A) reaction (B) restitution (C) resistance (D) magnificence (E) acceptance
595. REPLENISH (A) polish (B) repeat (C) reinstate (D) refill (E) refuse
596. REPLICA (A) museum piece (B) famous site (C) battle emblem (D) facsimile (E) replacement
597. REPRISAL (A) reevaluation (B) assessment (C) loss (D) retaliation (E) nonsense
598. REPROVE (A) prevail (B) rebuke (C) ascertain (D) prove false (E) draw back
599. REPUDIATE (A) besmirch (B) appropriate (C) annoy (D) reject (E) avow
600. REPUGNANCE (A) belligerence (B) tenacity (C) renewal (D) pity (E) loathing

### Word List 41 rescind-sacrosanct

■ **rescind** v. cancel. Because of the public outcry against the new taxes, the senator proposed a bill to *rescind* the unpopular financial measure.

**resentment** N. indignation; bitterness; displeasure. Not wanting to appear a sore loser, Bill tried to hide his *resentment* of Barry's success.

**reserve** N. self-control; formal but distant manner. Although some girls were attracted by Mark's *reserve*, Judy was put off by it, for she felt his aloofness indicated a lack of openness. *reserved*, ADJ.

**residue** N. remainder; balance. In his will, he requested that after payment of debts, taxes, and funeral expenses, the *residue* be given to his wife.

**resignation** N. patient submissiveness; statement that one is quitting a job. If Bob Cratchit had not accepted Scrooge's bullying with timid *resignation*, he might have gotten up the nerve to hand in his *resignation*. *resigned*, ADJ.

**resilient** ADJ. elastic; having the power of springing back. Highly *resilient*, steel makes excellent bedsprings. *resilience*, N.

■ **resolution** N. determination. Nothing could shake his *resolution* to succeed despite all difficulties. *resolute*, ADJ.

■ **resolve** N. determination; firmness of purpose. How dare you question my *resolve* to take up sky-diving! Of course I haven't changed my mind! also v.

**resolve** v. decide; settle; solve. Holmes *resolved* to travel to Bohemia to resolve the dispute between Irene Adler and the King.

**resonant** ADJ. echoing; resounding; deep and full in sound. The deep, *resonant* voice of the actor James Earl Jones makes him particularly effective when he appears on stage.

**respiration** N. breathing; exhalation. The doctor found that the patient's years of smoking had adversely affected both his lung capacity and his rate of *respiration*.

**respite** N. interval of relief; time for rest; delay in punishment. For David, the two weeks vacationing in New Zealand were a delightful *respite* from the pressures of his job.

**resplendent** ADJ. dazzling; glorious; brilliant. While all the adults were commenting how glorious the emperor looked in his *resplendent* new clothes, one little boy was heard to say, "But he's naked!"

**responsiveness** N. state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc. The audience cheered and applauded, delighting the performers by its *responsiveness*.

**restitution** N. reparation; indemnification. He offered to make *restitution* for the window broken by his son.

**restive** ADJ. restlessly impatient; obstinately resisting control. Waiting impatiently in line to see Santa Claus, even the best-behaved children grow *restive* and start to fidget.

**restraint** N. moderation or self-control; controlling force; restriction. Show some *restraint*, young lady! Three desserts is quite enough!

**resumption** N. taking up again; recommencement. During the summer break, Don had not realized how much he missed university life: at the *resumption* of classes, however, he felt marked excitement and pleasure. *resume*, v.

**resurge** V. rise again; flow to and fro. It was startling to see the spirit of nationalism *resurge* as the Soviet Union disintegrated into a loose federation of ethnic and national groups. *resurgence*, N. *resurgent*, ADJ.

**resuscitate** V. revive. The lifeguard tried to *resuscitate* the drowned child by applying artificial respiration.

**retain** V. keep; employ. Fighting to *retain* his seat in Congress, Senator Foghorn *retained* a new manager to head his reelection campaign.

**retaliation** V. repayment in kind (usually for bad treatment). Because everyone knew the Princeton band had stolen Brown's mascot, the whole Princeton student body expected some sort of *retaliation* from Brown. *retaliate*, v.

**retentive** ADJ. holding; having a good memory. The pupil did not need to spend much time in study as he had a *retentive* mind.

■ **reticent** ADJ. reserved; uncommunicative; inclined to silence. Fearing his competitors might get advance word about his plans from talkative staff members, Hughes preferred *reticent* employees to loquacious ones. *reticence*, N.

**retinue** N. following; attendants. The queen's *retinue* followed her down the aisle.

**retiring** ADJ. modest; shy. Given Susan's *retiring* personality, no one expected her to take up public speaking; surprisingly enough, she became a star of the school debate team.

**retort** N. quick, sharp reply. Even when it was advisable for her to keep her mouth shut, she was always ready with a *retort*. also v.

**retract** V. withdraw; take back. When I saw how Fred and his fraternity brothers had trashed the frat house, I decided to *retract* my offer to let them use our summer cottage for the weekend. *retraction*, N.

**retrench** V. cut down; economize. If they were to be able to send their children to college, they would have to *retrench*.

**retribution** N. vengeance; compensation; punishment for offenses. The evangelist maintained that an angry deity would exact *retribution* from the sinners.

**retrieve** V. recover; find and bring in. The dog was intelligent and quickly learned to *retrieve* the game killed by the hunter. *retrieval*, N.

**retroactive** ADJ. taking effect before its enactment (as a law) or imposition (as a tax). Because the new pension law was *retroactive* to the first of the year, even though Martha had retired in February she was eligible for the pension.

**retrograde** V. go backwards; degenerate. Instead of advancing, our civilization seems to have *retrograded* in ethics and culture. also ADJ.

**retrospective** ADJ. looking back on the past. The Museum of Graphic Arts is holding a *retrospective* showing of the paintings of Michael Whelan over the past two decades. also N. *retrospection*, N.

**revelry** N. boisterous merrymaking. New Year's Eve is a night of *revelry*.

**reverberate** V. echo; resound. The entire valley *reverberated* with the sound of the church bells.

■ **reverent** ADJ. respectful; worshipful. Though I bow my head in church and recite the prayers, sometimes I don't feel properly *reverent*. *revere*, v. *reverence*, N.

**reverie** N. daydream; musing. She was awakened from her *reverie* by the teacher's question.

**revert** V. relapse; backslide; turn back to. Most of the time Andy seemed sensitive and mature, but occasionally he would *revert* to his smart-alecky, macho, adolescent self. *reversion*, N.

**revile** V. attack with abusive language; vilify. Though most of his contemporaries *reviled* Captain Kidd as a notorious, bloody-handed pirate, some of his fellow merchant-captains believed him innocent of his alleged crimes.

**revoke** V. cancel; retract. Repeat offenders who continue to drive under the influence of alcohol face having their driver's licenses permanently *revoked*. *revocation*, N.

**revulsion** N. sudden violent change of feeling; negative reaction. Many people in this country who admired dictatorships underwent a *revulsion* when they realized what Hitler and Mussolini were trying to do.

**rhapsodize** V. to speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner. She greatly enjoyed her Hawaiian vacation and *rhapsodized* about it for weeks.

**rhetoric** N. art of effective communication; insincere or grandiloquent language. All writers, by necessity, must be skilled in *rhetoric*. *rhetorical*, ADJ.

**ribald** ADJ. wanton; profane. He sang a *ribald* song that offended many of the more prudish listeners. *ribaldry*, N.

**riddle** V. pierce with holes; permeate or spread throughout. With his machine gun, Tracy *riddled* the car with

bullets till it looked like a slice of Swiss cheese. During the proofreaders' strike, the newspaper was *riddled* with typos.

*rider* n. amendment or clause added to a legislative bill. Senator Foghorn said he would support Senator Filibuster's tax reform bill only if Filibuster agreed to add an antipollution *rider* to the bill.

*rife* ADJ. abundant; current. In the face of the many rumors of scandal, which are *rife* at the moment, it is best to remain silent.

*rift* n. opening; break. The plane was lost in the stormy sky until the pilot saw the city through a *rift* in the clouds.

*rig* v. fix or manipulate. The ward boss was able to *rig* the election by bribing people to stuff the ballot boxes with ballots marked in his candidate's favor.

*rigid* ADJ. stiff and unyielding; strict; hard and unbending. By living with a man to whom she was not married, George Eliot broke Victorian society's most *rigid* rule of respectable behavior.

*rigor* n. severity. Many settlers could not stand the *rigors* of the New England winters.

*rile* v. vex; irritate; muddy. Red had a hair-trigger temper: he was an easy man to *rile*.

*riveting* ADJ. absorbing; engrossing. The reviewer described Byatt's novel *Possession* as a *riveting* tale: absorbed in the story, she had finished it in a single evening.

*rivulet* n. small stream. As the rains continued, the trickle of water running down the hillside grew into a *rivulet* that threatened to wash away a portion of the slope.

*robust* ADJ. vigorous; strong. After pumping iron and taking karate for six months, the little old lady was far more *robust* in health and could break a plank with her fist.

*rococo* ADJ. ornate; highly decorated. The *rococo* style in furniture and architecture, marked by scrollwork and excessive decoration, flourished during the middle of the eighteenth century.

*roll* v. to make liquids murky by stirring up sediment; to disturb. Be careful when you pour not to *roll* the wine; if you stir up the sediment you'll destroy the flavor.

*roseate* ADJ. rosy; optimistic. I am afraid you will have to alter your *roseate* views in the light of the distressing news that has just arrived.

*roster* n. list. They print the *roster* of players in the season's program.

*rostrum* n. platform for speech-making; pulpit. The crowd murmured angrily and indicated that they did not care to listen to the speaker who was approaching the *rostrum*.

*rote* n. repetition. He recited the passage by *rote* and gave no indication he understood what he was saying. also ADJ.

*rotunda* n. circular building or hall covered with a dome. His body lay in state in the *rotunda* of the Capitol.

*rotundity* n. roundness; sonorousness of speech. Washington Irving emphasized the *rotundity* of the governor by describing his height and circumference.

*rousing* ADJ. lively; stirring. "And now, let's have a *rousing* welcome for TV's own Rosie O'Donnell, who'll lead us in a *rousing* rendition of 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'"

*rout* v. stampede; drive out. The reinforcements were able to *rout* the enemy. also N.

*rubble* n. fragments. Ten years after World War II, some of the *rubble* left by enemy bombings could still be seen.

*rubric* n. title or heading (in red print); directions for religious ceremony; protocol. In ordaining the new priests, the bishop carefully observed all the *rubrics* for the ordination service.

*ruddy* ADJ. reddish; healthy-looking. Santa Claus's *ruddy* cheeks nicely complement Rudolph the Reindeer's bright red nose.

*rudimentary* ADJ. not developed; elementary; crude. Although my grandmother's English vocabulary was limited to a few *rudimentary* phrases, she always could make herself understood.

*rue* v. regret; lament; mourn. Tina *rued* the night she met Tony and wondered how she ever fell for such a jerk. also N. rueful, ADJ.

*ruffian* n. bully; scoundrel. The *ruffians* threw stones at the police.

*ruminate* v. chew over and over (mentally or, like cows, physically); mull over; ponder. Unable to digest quickly the baffling events of the day, Reuben *ruminated* about them till four in the morning.

*rummage* v. ransack; thoroughly search. When we *rummaged* through the trunks in the attic, we found many souvenirs of our childhood days. also N.

*runic* ADJ. mysterious; set down in an ancient alphabet. Tolkien's use of Old English words and inscriptions in the *runic* alphabet give *The Lord of the Rings* its atmosphere of antiquity.

*ruse* n. trick; stratagem. You will not be able to fool your friends with such an obvious *ruse*.

*rustic* ADJ. pertaining to country people; uncouth. The backwoodsman looked out of place in his *rustic* attire.

*rusticate* v. banish to the country; dwell in the country. I like city life so much that I can never understand how people can *rusticate* in the suburbs.

*ruthless* ADJ. pitiless; cruel. Captain Hook was a dangerous, *ruthless* villain who would stop at nothing to destroy Peter Pan.

*saboteur* n. one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property. Members of the Resistance acted as *saboteurs*, blowing up train lines to prevent supplies from reaching the Nazi army.

*saccharine* ADJ. cloyingly sweet. She tried to ingratiate herself, speaking sweetly and smiling a *saccharine* smile.

*sacrilegious* ADJ. desecrating; profane. His stealing of the altar cloth was a very *sacrilegious* act.

*sacrosanct* ADJ. most sacred; inviolable. The brash insurance salesman invaded the *sacrosanct* privacy of the office of the president of the company.



## Test

Word List 41 *Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

601. RESILIENT (A) pungent (B) foolish (C) worthy (D) insolent (E) unyielding
602. RESTIVE (A) buoyant (B) placid (C) remorseful (D) resistant (E) retiring
603. RETENTIVE (A) forgetful (B) accepting (C) repetitive (D) avoiding (E) fascinating
604. RETICENCE (A) fatigue (B) fashion (C) treachery (D) loquaciousness (E) magnanimity
605. RETROGRADE (A) progressing (B) inclining (C) evaluating (D) concentrating (E) directing
606. REVERE (A) advance (B) dishonor (C) age (D) precede (E) wake
607. RIFE (A) direct (B) scant (C) peaceful (D) grim (E) mature
608. ROBUST (A) weak (B) violent (C) vicious (D) villainous (E) hungry
609. ROTUNDITY (A) promenade (B) nave (C) grotesqueness (D) slimness (E) impropriety
610. RUBBLE (A) artificial facade (B) unbroken stone (C) pale complexion (D) strong defense (E) glib answer
611. RUDDY (A) robust (B) witty (C) wan (D) exotic (E) creative
612. RUDIMENTARY (A) peie (B) polite (C) asinine (D) developed (E) quiescent
613. RUEFUL (A) trite (B) content (C) capable (D) capital (E) zealous
614. RUSTIC (A) urban (B) slow (C) corroded (D) mercenary (E) civilian
615. RUTHLESS (A) merciful (B) majestic (C) mighty (D) militant (E) maximum

Word List 42 *sadistic-sepulcher*

**sadistic** ADJ. inclined to cruelty. If we are to improve conditions in this prison, we must first get rid of the *sadistic* warden. **sadism**, N.

**saga** N. Scandinavian myth; any legend. This is a *saga* of the sea and the men who risk their lives on it.

**sagacious** ADJ. perceptive; shrewd; having insight. My father was a *sagacious* judge of character; he could spot a phony a mile away. **sagacity**, N.

■ **sage** N. person celebrated for wisdom. Hearing tales of a mysterious Master of All Knowledge who lived in the hills of Tibet, Sandy was possessed with a burning desire to consult the legendary *sage*. also ADJ.

**salacious** ADJ. lascivious; lustful. Chaucer's monk is not pious but *salacious*, a teller of lewd tales and ribald jests.

**salient** ADJ. prominent. One of the *salient* features of that newspaper is its excellent editorial page.

**saline** ADJ. salty. The slightly *saline* taste of this mineral water is pleasant.

**sallow** ADJ. yellowish; sickly in color. We were disturbed by her *sallow* complexion, which was due to jaundice.

■ **salubrious** ADJ. healthful. Many people with hay fever move to more *salubrious* sections of the country during the months of August and September.

**salutary** ADJ. tending to improve; beneficial; wholesome. The punishment had a *salutary* effect on the boy, as he became a model student.

**salvage** V. rescue from loss. All attempts to *salvage* the wrecked ship failed. also N.

**sanctimonious** ADJ. displaying ostentatious or hypocritical devoutness. You do not have to be so *sanctimonious* to prove that you are devout.

■ **sanction** V. approve; ratify. Nothing will convince me to *sanction* the engagement of my daughter to such a worthless young man.

**sanctuary** N. refuge; shelter; shrine; holy place. The tiny attic was Helen's *sanctuary* to which she fled when she had to get away from her bickering parents and brothers.

**sanguinary** ADJ. bloody. The battle of Iwo Jima was unexpectedly *sanguinary*, with many casualties.

**sanguine** ADJ. cheerful; hopeful. Let us not be too *sanguine* about the outcome; something could go wrong.

**sap** V. diminish; undermine. The element kryptonite had an unhealthy effect on Superman: It *sapped* his strength.

**sarcasm** N. scornful remark; stinging rebuke. Though Ralph pretended to ignore the mocking comments of his supposed friends, their *sarcasm* wounded him deeply. **sarcastic**, ADJ.

**sardonic** ADJ. disdainful; sarcastic; cynical. The *sardonic* humor of nightclub comedians who satirize or ridicule patrons in the audience strikes some people as amusing and others as rude.

**sartorial** ADJ. pertaining to tailors. He was as famous for the *sartorial* splendor of his attire as he was for his acting.

**sate** V. satisfy to the full; cloy. Its hunger *sated*, the lion dozed.

**satellite** *N.* small body revolving around a larger one. During the first few years of the Space Age, hundreds of *satellites* were launched by Russia and the United States.

■ **satiate** *V.* satisfy fully. Having stuffed themselves with goodies until they were *satiated*, the guests were so full they were ready for a nap. *satiety*, *N.*

**satire** *N.* form of literature in which irony, sarcasm, and ridicule are employed to attack vice and folly. *Gulliver's Travels*, which is regarded by many as a tale for children, is actually a bitter *satire* attacking human folly.

**satirical** *ADJ.* mocking. The humor of cartoonist Gary Trudeau often is *satirical*; through the comments of the *Doonesbury* characters, Trudeau ridicules political corruption and folly.

■ **saturate** *V.* soak thoroughly. Thorough watering is the key to lawn care: you must *saturate* your new lawn well to encourage its growth.

**saturnine** *ADJ.* gloomy. Do not be misled by his *saturnine* countenance; he is not as gloomy as he looks.

**satyr** *N.* half-human, half-bestial being in the court of Dionysus, portrayed as wanton and cunning. He was like a *satyr* in his lustful conduct.

**saunter** *V.* stroll slowly. As we *sauntered* through the park, we stopped frequently to admire the spring flowers.

**savant** *N.* scholar. Our faculty includes many world-famous *savants*.

■ **savor** *V.* enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell, or quality. Relishing his triumph, Costner especially savored the chagrin of the critics who had predicted his failure.

**savory** *ADJ.* tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable. Julia Child's recipes enable amateur chefs to create *savory* delicacies for their guests.

**scabbard** *N.* case for a sword blade; sheath. The drill master told the recruit to wipe the blood from his sword before slipping it back into the *scabbard*.

**scad** *N.* a great quantity. Refusing Dave's offer to lend him a shirt, Phil replied, "No, thanks; I've got *scads* of clothes."

**scaffold** *N.* temporary platform for workers; bracing framework; platform for execution. Before painting the house, the workers put up a *scaffold* to allow them to work on the second story.

**scale** *V.* climb up; ascend. To locate a book on the top shelf of the stacks, Lee had to *scale* an exceptionally rickety ladder.

**scanty** *ADJ.* meager; insufficient. Thinking his helping of food was *scanty*, Oliver Twist asked for more.

**scapegoat** *N.* someone who bears the blame for others. After the Challenger disaster, NASA searched for *scapegoats* on whom they could cast the blame.

**scavenge** *V.* hunt through discarded materials for usable items; search, especially for food. If you need car parts that the dealers no longer stock, try *scavenging* for odd bits and pieces at the auto wreckers' yards. *scavenger*, *N.*

**scenario** *N.* plot outline; screenplay; opera libretto. Scaramouche startled the other actors in the *commedia*

*troupe* when he suddenly departed from their customary *scenario* and began to improvise.

**schematic** *ADJ.* relating to an outline or diagram; using a system of symbols. In working out the solution to an analytical logic question, you may find it helpful to construct a simple *schematic* diagram illustrating the relationships between the items of information given in the question. *schema*, *N.*

**schism** *N.* division; split. Let us not widen the *schism* by further bickering.

**scintilla** *N.* shred; least bit. You have not produced a *scintilla* of evidence to support your argument.

**scintillate** *V.* sparkle; flash. I enjoy her dinner parties because the food is excellent and the conversation *scintillates*.

**scoff** *V.* mock; ridicule. He *scoffed* at dentists until he had his first toothache.

**scotch** *V.* stamp out; thwart; hinder. Heather tried to *scotch* the rumor that she had stolen her best friend's fiancé.

**scourge** *N.* lash; whip; severe punishment. They feared the plague and regarded it as a deadly *scourge*. also *V.*

**scruple** *V.* fret about; hesitate, for ethical reasons. Fearing that her husband had become involved in an affair, she did not *scruple* to read his diary. also *N.*

**scrupulous** *ADJ.* conscientious; extremely thorough. Though Alfred is *scrupulous* in fulfilling his duties at work, he is less conscientious about his obligations to his family and friends.

**scrutinize** *V.* examine closely and critically. Searching for flaws, the sergeant *scrutinized* every detail of the private's uniform.

**scuffle** *V.* struggle confusedly; move off in a confused hurry. The twins briefly *scuffled*, wrestling to see which of them would get the toy. When their big brother yelled, "Let go of my Gameboy!" they *scuffled* off down the hall.

**scurrilous** *ADJ.* obscene; indecent. Your *scurrilous* remarks are especially offensive because they are untrue.

**scurry** *V.* move briskly. The White Rabbit had to *scurry* to get to his appointment on time.

**scurvy** *ADJ.* despicable; contemptible. Peter Pan sneered at Captain Hook and his *scurvy* crew.

**scuttle** *V.* sink. The sailors decided to *scuttle* their vessel rather than surrender it to the enemy.

**seamy** *ADJ.* sordid; unwholesome. In *The Godfather*, Michael Corleone is unwilling to expose his wife and children to the *seamy* side of his life as the son of a Mafia don.

**sear** *V.* char or burn; brand. Accidentally brushing against the hot grill, she *seared* her hand badly.

**seasoned** *ADJ.* experienced. Though pleased with her new batch of rookies, the basketball coach wished she had a few more *seasoned* players on the team.

**secession** *n.* withdrawal. The *secession* of the Southern states provided Lincoln with his first major problem after his inauguration. *secede*, *v.*

**seclusion** *n.* isolation; solitude. One moment she loved crowds; the next, she sought *seclusion*.

■ **secrete** *v.* hide away or cache; produce and release a substance into an organism. The pack rat *secretes* odds and ends in its nest; the pancreas *secretes* insulin in the islets of Langerhans.

**sect** *n.* separate religious body; faction. As university chaplain, she sought to address universal religious issues and not limit herself to the concerns of any one sect; *sectarian*, *adj.*

**secular** *adj.* worldly; not pertaining to church matters; temporal. The church leaders decided not to interfere in *secular* matters.

**sedate** *adj.* composed; grave. The parents were worried because they felt their son was too quiet and *sedate*.

**sedentary** *adj.* requiring sitting. Sitting all day at the computer, Sharon grew to resent the *sedentary* nature of her job.

**sedition** *n.* resistance to authority; insubordination. Her words, though not treasonous in themselves, were calculated to arouse thoughts of *sedition*.

**sedulous** *adj.* diligent. The young woman was so *sedulous* that she received a commendation for her hard work. *sedulity*, *n.*

**seedy** *adj.* run-down; decrepit; disreputable. I would rather stay in dormitory lodgings in a decent youth hostel than have a room of my own in a *seedy* downtown hotel.

**seemly** *adj.* proper; appropriate. Lady Bracknell did not think it was *seemly* for Ernest to lack a proper family: no baby abandoned on a doorstep could grow up to marry her daughter.

**seep** *v.* ooze; trickle. During the rainstorm, water *seeped* through the crack in the basement wall and damaged the floor boards. *seepage*, *n.*

**seethe** *v.* be disturbed; boil. The nation was *seething* with discontent as the noblemen continued their arrogant ways.

**seine** *n.* net for catching fish. When the shad run during the spring, you may see fishermen with *seines* along the banks of our coastal rivers.

**seismic** *adj.* pertaining to earthquakes. The Richter scale is a measurement of *seismic* disturbances.

**semblance** *n.* outward appearance; guise. Although this book has a *semblance* of wisdom and scholarship, a careful examination will reveal many errors and omissions.

**seminal** *adj.* germinal; influencing future developments; related to seed or semen. Although Freud has generally been regarded as a *seminal* thinker who shaped the course of psychology, his psychoanalytic methods have come under attack recently.

**seminary** *n.* school for training future ministers; secondary school, especially for young women. Sure of his priestly vocation, Terrence planned to pursue his theological training at the local Roman Catholic *seminary*.

**senility** *n.* old age; feeble-mindedness of old age. Most of the decisions are being made by the junior members of the company because of the *senility* of the president. *senile*, *adj.*

**sensitization** *n.* process of being made sensitive or acutely responsive to an external agent or substance. The paint fumes triggered a bad allergic response in Vicky; even now, her extreme *sensitization* to these chemicals causes her to faint whenever she is around wet paint.

**sensual** *adj.* devoted to the pleasures of the senses; carnal; voluptuous. I cannot understand what caused him to drop his *sensual* way of life and become so ascetic.

**sensuous** *adj.* pertaining to the physical senses; operating through the senses. She was stimulated by the sights, sounds, and smells about her; she was enjoying her *sensuous* experience.

**sententious** *adj.* terse; concise; aphoristic. After reading so many *redundant* speeches, I find his *sententious* style particularly pleasing.

**sentient** *adj.* capable of sensation; aware; sensitive. In the science fiction story, the hero had to discover a way to prove that the rocklike extraterrestrial creature was actually a *sentient*, intelligent creature. *sentience*, *n.*

**sentinel** *n.* sentry; lookout. Though camped in enemy territory, Bledsoe ignored the elementary precaution of posting *sentinels* around the encampment.

**septic** *adj.* putrid; producing putrefaction. The hospital was in such a filthy state that we were afraid that many of the patients would suffer from *septic* poisoning. *sepsis*, *n.*

**sepulcher** *n.* tomb. Annabel Lee was buried in a *sepulcher* by the sea.

## Test

### Word List 42     *Antonyms*

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

616. SADISTIC (A) happy (B) quaint (C) kindhearted (D) vacant (E) fortunate
617. SAGACIOUS (A) foolish (B) bitter (C) voracious (D) veracious (E) fallacious

618. SALLOW (A) salacious (B) ruddy (C) colorless (D) permitted (E) minimum
619. SALUBRIOUS (A) salty (B) bloody (C) miasmic (D) maudlin (E) wanted
620. SALVAGE (A) remove (B) outfit (C) burn (D) lose (E) confuse
621. SANCTIMONIOUS (A) hypothetical (B) paltry (C) mercenary (D) pious (E) grateful
622. SANGUINE (A) choleric (B) sickening (C) warranted (D) irritated (E) pessimistic
623. SATIETY (A) emptiness (B) warmth (C) erectness (D) ignorance (E) straightness
624. SCANTY (A) collected (B) remote (C) invisible (D) plentiful (E) straight
625. SCURRILOUS (A) savage (B) scabby (C) decent (D) volatile (E) major
626. SECULAR (A) vivid (B) clerical (C) punitive (D) positive (E) varying
627. SEDENTARY (A) vicarious (B) loyal (C) accidental (D) active (E) afraid
628. SEDULOUS (A) indolent (B) guileless (C) vindictive (D) upright (E) incorrect
629. SENILITY (A) virility (B) loquaciousness (C) forgetfulness (D) youth (E) majority
630. SENTENTIOUS (A) paragraphed (B) positive (C) posthumous (D) pacific (E) wordy

## Word List 43 sequester-somatic

**sequester** v. isolate; retire from public life; segregate; seclude. To prevent the jurors from hearing news broadcasts about the case, the judge decided to *sequester* the jury.

**sere** ADJ. parched; dry. After the unseasonably dry winter the Berkeley hills looked dusty and *sere*.

**serendipity** N. gift for finding valuable or desirable things by accident; accidental good fortune or luck. Many scientific discoveries are a matter of *serendipity*: Newton was not sitting there thinking about gravity when the apple dropped on his head.

**serenity** N. calmness; placidity. The *serenity* of the sleepy town was shattered by a tremendous explosion.

**serpentine** ADJ. winding; twisting. The car swerved at every curve in the *serpentine* road.

**serrated** ADJ. having a sawtoothed edge. The beech tree is one of many plants that have *serrated* leaves.

**servile** ADJ. slavish; cringing. Constantly fawning on his employer, humble Uriah Heep was a *servile* creature.

**servility** N.

**servitude** N. slavery; compulsory labor. Born a slave, Douglass resented his life of *servitude* and plotted to escape to the North.

**sever** V. cut; separate. Dr. Guillotin invented a machine that could neatly *sever* an aristocratic head from its equally aristocratic body. Unfortunately, he couldn't collect any *severance* pay.

**severity** N. harshness; intensity; sternness; austerity. The *severity* of Jane's migraine attack was so great that she took to her bed for a week. **severe**, ADJ.

**sextant** N. navigation tool used to determine a ship's latitude and longitude. Given a clear night, with the aid of his *sextant* and compass he could keep the ship safely on course.

**shackle** V. chain; fetter. The criminal's ankles were *shackled* to prevent his escape. also N.

**sham** V. pretend. She *shammed* sickness to get out of going to school. also N.

**shambles** N. wreck; mess. After the hurricane, the Carolina coast was a *shambles*. After the New Year's Eve party, the host's apartment was a *shambles*.

**shard** N. fragment, generally of pottery. The archaeologist assigned several students the task of reassembling earthenware vessels from the *shards* he had brought back from the expedition.

**shaving** N. very thin piece, usually of wood. As the carpenter pared away the edge of the board with his plane, a small pile of *shavings* began to accumulate on the floor.

**sheaf** N. bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of things tied together. The lawyer picked up a *sheaf* of papers as she rose to question the witness.

**sheathe** V. place into a case. As soon as he recognized the approaching men, he *sheathed* his dagger and hailed them as friends.

**sherbet** N. flavored dessert ice. I prefer raspberry *sherbet* to ice cream since it is less fattening.

**shimmer** V. glimmer intermittently. The moonlight *shimmered* on the water as the moon broke through the clouds for a moment. also N.

**shirk** V. avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); mangle. Brian has a strong sense of duty; he would never *shirk* any responsibility.

**shoddy** ADJ. sham; not genuine; inferior. You will never get the public to buy such *shoddy* material.

**shrew** N. scolding woman. No one wanted to marry Shakespeare's Kate because she was a *shrew*.

**shrewd** ADJ. clever; astute. A *shrewd* investor, she took clever advantage of the fluctuations of the stock market.

**shun** V. keep away from. Cherishing his solitude, the recluse *shunned* the company of other human beings.

**shunt** v. turn aside; divert; sidetrack. If the switchman failed to *shunt* the Silver Streak onto a side track, the train would plow right into Union Station.

**shyster** n. lawyer using questionable methods. On L.A. Law, respectable attorney Brackman was horrified to learn that his newly discovered half brother was a cheap *shyster*.

**sibling** n. brother or sister. We may not enjoy being *siblings*, but we cannot forget that we still belong to the same family.

**sibylline** ADJ. prophetic; oracular. Until their destruction by fire in 83 B.C., the *sibylline* books were often consulted by the Romans.

**sidereal** ADJ. relating to the stars. Although hampered by optical and mechanical flaws, the orbiting *Hubble* space telescope has relayed extraordinary images of distant *sidereal* bodies.

**silt** n. sediment deposited by running water. The harbor channel must be dredged annually to remove the *silt*.

**simian** ADJ. monkeylike. Lemurs are nocturnal mammals and have many *simian* characteristics, although they are less intelligent than monkeys.

**simile** n. comparison of one thing with another, using the word *like* or *as*. "My love is like a red, red rose" is a *simile*.

**simper** v. smirk; smile affectedly. Complimented on her appearance, Stella self-consciously *simpered*.

**simplistic** ADJ. oversimplified. Though Jack's solution dealt adequately with one aspect of the problem, it was *simplistic* in failing to consider various complicating factors that might arise.

**simulate** v. feign. She *simulated* insanity in order to avoid punishment for her crime.

**sinecure** n. well-paid position with little responsibility. My job is no *sinecure*; I work long hours and have much responsibility.

**sinewy** ADJ. tough; strong and firm. The steak was too *sinewy* to chew.

**singular** ADJ. unique; extraordinary; odd. Though the young man tried to understand Father William's *singular* behavior, he still found it odd that the old man incessantly stood on his head.

**sinister** ADJ. evil. We must defeat the *sinister* forces that seek our downfall.

**sinuous** ADJ. winding; bending in and out; not morally honest. The snake moved in a *sinuous* manner.

■ **skeptic** n. doubter; person who suspends judgment until having examined the evidence supporting a point of view. I am a *skeptic* about the new health plan; I want some proof that it can work. **skeptical**, ADJ. **skepticism**, n.

**skiff** n. small, light sailboat or rowboat. Tom dreamed of owning an ocean-going yacht but had to settle for a *skiff* he could sail in the bay.

**skimp** v. provide scantily; live very economically. They were forced to *skimp* on necessities in order to make their limited supplies last the winter.

**skinflint** n. stingy person; miser. Scrooge was an ungenerous old *skinflint* until he reformed his ways and became a notable philanthropist.

**skirmish** n. minor fight. Custer's troops expected they might run into a *skirmish* or two on maneuvers; they did not expect to face a major battle. also v.

**skittish** ADJ. lively; frisky. She is as *skittish* as a kitten playing with a piece of string.

**skulduggery** n. dishonest behavior. The investigation into municipal corruption turned up new instances of *skulduggery* daily.

**skulk** v. move furtively and secretly. He *skulked* through the less fashionable sections of the city in order to avoid meeting any of his former friends.

**slacken** v. slow up; loosen. As they passed the finish line, the runners *slackened* their pace.

**slag** n. residue from smelting metal; dross; waste matter. The blast furnace had a special opening at the bottom to allow the workers to remove the worthless *slag*.

**slake** v. quench; sate. When we reached the oasis, we were able to *slake* our thirst.

**slander** n. defamation; utterance of false and malicious statements. Considering the negative comments politicians make about each other, it's a wonder that more of them aren't sued for *slander*. also v. **slandering**, ADJ.

**slapdash** ADJ. haphazard; careless; sloppy. From the number of typos and misspellings I've found in it, it's clear that Merio proofread the report in a remarkably *slapdash* fashion.

**sleazy** ADJ. flimsy; unsubstantial. This is a *sleazy* fabric; it will not wear well.

**sleepers** n. something originally of little value or importance that in time becomes very valuable. Unnoticed by the critics at its publication, the eventual Pulitzer Prize winner was a classic *sleepers*.

**sleight** n. dexterity. The magician amazed the audience with his *sleight* of hand.

**slew** n. large quantity or number. Although Ellen had checked off a number of items on her "To Do" list, she still had a whole *slew* of errands left.

**slight** n. insult to one's dignity; snub. Hypersensitive and ready to take offense at any discourtesy, Bertha was always on the lookout for real or imaginary *slights*. also v.

**slipshod** ADJ. untidy or slovenly; shabby. As a master craftsman, the carpenter prided himself on never doing *slipshod* work.

**slither** v. slip or slide. During the recent ice storm, many people *slithered* down this hill as they walked to the station.

**sloth** n. slow-moving tree-dwelling mammal. Note how well the somewhat greenish coat of the *sloth* enables it to blend in with its arboreal surroundings. (secondary meaning)

**slothful** ADJ. lazy. The British word "layabout" is a splendid descriptive term for someone *slothful*. What did the lazy bum do? He lay about the house all day. **sloth**, n.

**slough** v. cast off. Each spring, the snake *sloughs* off its skin. also n.

**slovenly** ADJ. untidy; careless in work habits. Unshaven, sitting around in his bathrobe all afternoon, Gus didn't care about the *slovenly* appearance he presented.

**sloven**, N.

**sluggard** N. lazy person. "You are a *sluggard*, a drone, a parasite," the angry father shouted at his lazy son.

**sluggish** ADJ. slow; lazy; lethargic. After two nights without sleep, she felt *sluggish* and incapable of exertion.

**sluice** N. artificial channel for directing or controlling the flow of water. In times of drought, this *sluice* enables farmers to obtain water for irrigation.

**slur** N. insult to one's character or reputation; slander. Polls revealed that the front-runner's standing had been damaged by the *slurs* and innuendoes circulated by his opponent's staff. (secondary meaning) also v.

**slur** v. speak indistinctly; mumble. When Sol has too much to drink, he starts to *slur* his words: "Washamatter? Cansh you undershtand what I shay?"

**smattering** N. slight knowledge. I don't know whether it is better to be ignorant of a subject or to have a mere *smattering* of information about it.

**smelt** v. melt or blend ores, changing their chemical composition. The furnaceman *smelts* tin with copper to create a special alloy used in making bells.

**smirk** N. conceited smile. Wipe that *smirk* off your face! also v.

**smolder** v. burn without flame; be liable to break out at any moment. The rags *smoldered* for hours before they burst into flame.

**snick** N. half-stifled laugh. The boy could not suppress a *snick* when the teacher sat on the tack. also v.

**snivel** v. run at the nose; snuffle; whine. Don't you come *sniveling* to me complaining about your big brother.

**sobriety** N. moderation (especially regarding indulgence in alcohol); seriousness. Neither falling-down drunks nor stand-up comics are noted for *sobriety*. sober, ADJ.

**sodden** ADJ. soaked; dull, as if from drink. He set his *sodden* overcoat near the radiator to dry.

**sojourn** N. temporary stay. After his *sojourn* in Florida, he began to long for the colder climate of his native New England home.

**solace** N. comfort in trouble. I hope you will find *solace* in the thought that all of us share your loss.

**solder** v. repair or make whole by using a metal alloy. The plumber fixed the leak in the pipes by *soldering* a couple of joints from which water had been oozing.

**solecism** N. construction that is flagrantly incorrect grammatically. I must give this paper a failing mark because it contains many *solecisms*.

**solemnity** N. seriousness; gravity. The minister was concerned that nothing should disturb the *solemnity* of the marriage service.

**solicit** v. request earnestly; seek. Knowing she needed to have a solid majority for the budget to pass, the mayor telephoned all the members of the city council to *solicit* their votes.

■ **solicitous** ADJ. worried, concerned. The employer was very *solicitous* about the health of her employees as replacements were difficult to get. solicitude, N.

**soliloquy** N. talking to oneself. The *soliloquy* is a device used by the dramatist to reveal a character's innermost thoughts and emotions.

**solitude** N. state of being alone; seclusion. Much depends on how much you like your own company. What to one person seems fearful isolation to another is blessed *solitude*. solitary, ADJ.

**solstice** N. point at which the sun is farthest from the equator. The winter *solstice* usually occurs on December 21.

**soluble** ADJ. able to be dissolved; able to be worked out. Sugar is *soluble* in water; put a sugar cube in water and it will quickly dissolve. Because the test-maker had left out some necessary data, the problem was not *soluble*.

**solvent** ADJ. able to pay all debts. By dint of very frugal living, he was finally able to become *solvent* and avoid bankruptcy proceedings. solvency, N.

**solvent** N. substance that dissolves another. Dip a cube of sugar into a cup of water; note how the water acts as a *solvent*, causing the cube to break down.

**somatic** ADJ. pertaining to the body; physical. Why do you ignore the spiritual aspects and emphasize only the corporeal and the *somatic* ones?

## Test

### Word List 43 Synonyms and Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

631. SEQUESTER (A) request (B) preclude (C) seclude (D) witness (E) evolve

632. SERRATED (A) riddled (B) diagonal (C) sawtoothed (D) grooved (E) linear

633. SERVILE (A) moral (B) puerile (C) futile (D) foul (E) haughty

634. SHODDY (A) superior (B) barefoot (C) sunlit (D) querulous (E) garrulous

635. SINGULAR (A) silent (B) angular (C) ordinary (D) desirable (E) garrulous

636. SINISTER (A) unweid (B) ministerial (C) good (D) returned (E) splintered

637. SKITTISH (A) tractable (B) inquiring (C) dramatic (D) vain (E) frisky



638. SLEAZY (A) fanciful (B) creeping (C) substantial (D) uneasy (E) warranted
639. SLOTH (A) penitence (B) filth (C) futility (D) poverty (E) industry
640. SLOUGH (A) toughen (B) trap (C) violate (D) cast off (E) depart quickly
641. SLOVENLY (A) half-baked (B) loved (C) inappropriate (D) tidy (E) rapid

642. SOBRIETY (A) inebriety (B) aptitude (C) scholasticism (D) monotony (E) aversion
643. SOLECISM (A) praise (B) embarrassment (C) concise phrase (D) inaccurate count (E) correct expression
644. SOLSTICE (A) equinox (B) sunrise (C) pigsty (D) interstices (E) iniquity
645. SOLVENT (A) enigmatic (B) bankrupt (C) fiducial (D) puzzling (E) gilded

## Word List 44      somber-sublime

**somber** ADJ. gloomy; depressing. From the doctor's grim expression, I could tell he had *somber* news.

**somnambulist** N. sleepwalker. The most famous *somnambulist* in literature is Lady Macbeth; her monologue in the sleepwalking scene is one of the highlights of Shakespeare's play.

**somnolent** ADJ. half asleep. The heavy meal and the overheated room made us all *somnolent* and indifferent to the speaker. *somnolence*, N.

**sonorous** ADJ. resonant. His *sonorous* voice resounded through the hall.

**sophist** N. teacher of philosophy; quibbler; employer of fallacious reasoning. You are using all the devices of a *sophist* in trying to prove your case; your argument is specious.

**sophisticated** ADJ. worldly wise and urbane; complex. When Sophy makes wisecracks, she thinks she sounds *sophisticated*, but instead she sounds sophomoric. The IBM laptop with the butterfly keyboard and the built-in FAX modem is a pretty *sophisticated* machine. *sophistication*, N.

**sophistry** N. seemingly plausible but fallacious reasoning. Instead of advancing valid arguments, he tried to overwhelm his audience with a flood of *sophistries*.

**sophomoric** ADJ. immature; half-baked, like a sophomore. Even if you're only a freshman, it's no compliment to be told your humor is *sophomoric*. The humor in *Dumb and Dumber* is *sophomoric* at best.

■ **soporific** ADJ. sleep-causing; marked by sleepiness. Professor Pringle's lectures were so *soporific* that even he fell asleep in class. also N.

**sordid** ADJ. filthy; base; vile. The social worker was angered by the *sordid* housing provided for the homeless.

**spangle** N. small metallic piece sewn to clothing for ornamentation. The thousands of *spangles* on her dress sparkled in the glare of the stage lights.

**sparse** ADJ. not thick; thinly scattered; scanty. No matter how carefully Albert combed his hair to make it appear as full as possible, it still looked *sparse*.

**spartan** ADJ. lacking luxury and comfort; sternly disciplined. Looking over the bare, unheated room with its hard cot, he wondered what he was doing in such *spartan* quarters. Only his *spartan* sense of duty kept him at his post.

**spasmodic** ADJ. fitful; periodic. The *spasmodic* coughing in the auditorium annoyed the performers.

**spat** N. squabble; minor dispute. What had started out as a mere *spat* escalated into a full-blown argument.

**spate** N. sudden flood. I am worried about the possibility of a *spate* if the rains do not diminish soon.

**spatial** ADJ. relating to space. Certain exercises test your sense of *spatial* relations by asking you to identify two views of an object seen from different points in space.

**spatula** N. broad-bladed instrument used for spreading or mixing. The manufacturers of this frying pan recommend the use of a rubber *spatula* to avoid scratching the specially treated surface.

**spawn** V. lay eggs. Fish ladders had to be built in the dams to assist the salmon returning to *spawn* in their native streams. also N.

■ **specious** ADJ. seemingly reasonable but incorrect; misleading (often intentionally). To claim that, because houses and birds both have wings, both can fly is extremely *specious* reasoning.

**spectral** ADJ. ghostly. We were frightened by the *spectral* glow that filled the room.

■ **spectrum** N. colored band produced when a beam of light passes through a prism. The visible portion of the *spectrum* includes red at one end and violet at the other.

**spendthrift** N. someone who wastes money. Easy access to credit encourages people to turn into *spendthrifts* who shop till they drop.

**sphinx-like** ADJ. enigmatic; mysterious. The Mona Lisa's *sphinx-like* expression has puzzled art lovers for centuries.

**splice** V. fasten together; unite. Before you *splice* two strips of tape together, be sure to line them up evenly. also N.

**spontaneity** N. lack of premeditation; naturalness; freedom from constraint. The cast overrehearsed the play so much that the eventual performance lacked any *spontaneity*. *spontaneous*, ADJ.

**spoonerism** N. accidental transposition of sounds in successive words. When the radio announcer introduced the President as Hoobert Herver, he was guilty of a *spoonerism*.

■ **sporadic** ADJ. occurring irregularly. Although you can still hear *sporadic* outbursts of laughter and singing outside, the big Halloween parade has passed; the party's over till next year.

**sportive** ADJ. playful. Such a *sportive* attitude is surprising in a person as serious as you usually are.

**spruce** ADJ. neat and trim. Every button buttoned, tie firmly in place, young Alex Keaton looked *spruce* and tidy for his job interview at the bank. also v.

**spry** ADJ. vigorously active; nimble. She was eighty years old, yet still *spry* and alert.

**spurious** ADJ. false; counterfeit; forged; illogical. The hero of Jonathan Gash's mystery novels is an antique dealer who gives the reader advice on how to tell *spurious* antiques from the real thing.

**spurn** v. reject; scorn. The heroine *spurned* the villain's advances.

**squabble** n. minor quarrel; bickering. Children invariably get involved in petty *squabbles*; wise parents know when to interfere and when to let the children work things out on their own.

**squalor** n. filth; degradation; dirty, neglected state. Rusted, broken-down cars in the yard, trash piled on the porch, tar paper peeling from the roof—the shack was the picture of *squalor*. **squalid**, ADJ.

**squander** v. waste. If you *squander* your allowance on candy and comic books, you won't have any money left to buy the new box of crayons you want.

**squat** ADJ. stocky; short and thick. Tolkien's hobbits are somewhat *squat*, sturdy little creatures, fond of good ale, good music, and good food.

**staccato** ADJ. played in an abrupt manner; marked by abrupt, sharp sound. His *staccato* speech reminded one of the sound of a machine gun.

**stagnant** ADJ. motionless; stale; dull. Mosquitoes commonly breed in ponds of *stagnant* water. Mike's career was *stagnant*, it wasn't going anywhere, and neither was he; **stagnate**, v.

**staid** ADJ. sober; sedate. Her conduct during the funeral ceremony was *staid* and solemn.

**stalemate** n. deadlock. Negotiations between the union and the employers have reached a *stalemate*; neither side is willing to budge from previously stated positions.

**stalwart** ADJ. strong, brawny; steadfast. His consistent support of the party has proved that he is a *stalwart* and loyal member. also n.

**stamina** n. strength; staying power. I doubt that she has the *stamina* to run the full distance of the marathon race.

**stanch** v. check flow of blood. It is imperative that we *stanch* the gushing wound before we attend to the other injuries.

**stanza** n. division of a poem. Do you know the last *stanza* of "The Star-Spangled Banner"?

**static** ADJ. unchanging; lacking development. Why do you watch chess on TV? I like watching a game with action, not something *static* where nothing seems to be going on. **stasis**, n.

**statute** n. law enacted by the legislature. The *statute* of limitations sets limits on how long you have to take legal action in specific cases.

**statutory** ADJ. created by statute or legislative action. The judicial courts review and try *statutory* crimes.

**steadfast** ADJ. loyal; unswerving. Penelope was *steadfast* in her affections; faithfully waiting for Ulysses to return from his wanderings.

**stealth** n. slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness. Fearing detection by the sentries on duty, the scout inched his way toward the enemy camp with great *stealth*.

**steep** v. soak; saturate. Be sure to *steep* the fabric in the dye bath for the full time prescribed.

**stellar** ADJ. pertaining to the stars. He was the *stellar* attraction of the entire performance.

**stem** v. check the flow. The paramedic used a tourniquet to *stem* the bleeding from the slashed artery.

**stem from** v. arise from. Milton's problems in school *stemmed from* his poor study habits.

**stentorian** ADJ. extremely loud. The town crier had a *stentorian* voice.

**stereotype** n. fixed and unvarying representation; standardized mental picture, often reflecting prejudice. Critics object to the character of Jim in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* because he seems to reflect the *stereotype* of the happy, ignorant slave. also v.

**stickler** n. perfectionist; person who insists things be exactly right. The Internal Revenue Service agent was a *stickler* for accuracy; no approximations or rough estimates would satisfy him.

**stifle** v. suppress; extinguish; inhibit. Halfway through the boring lecture, Laura gave up trying to *stifle* her yawns.

■ **stigma** n. token of disgrace; brand. I do not attach any *stigma* to the fact that you were accused of this crime; the fact that you were acquitted clears you completely. **stigmatize**, n.

**stilted** ADJ. bombastic; stilly pompous. His *stilted* rhetoric did not impress the college audience; they were immune to bombastic utterances.

■ **stint** v. be thrifty; set limits. "Spare no expense," the bride's father said, refusing to *stint* on the wedding arrangements.

**stint** n. supply; allotted amount; assigned portion of work. She performed her daily *stint* cheerfully and willingly.

**stipend** n. pay for services. There is a nominal *stipend* for this position.

**stipple** v. paint or draw with dots. Seurat carefully *stippled* dabs of pure color on the canvas, juxtaposing dots of blue and yellow that the viewer's eye would interpret as green.

■ **stipulate** v. make express conditions, specify. Before agreeing to reduce American military forces in Europe, the president *stipulated* that NATO teams be allowed to inspect Russian bases.

stipulate

stipulate

**stock** ADJ. typical; standard; kept regularly in supply. Victorian melodramas portrayed *stock* characters—the rich but wicked villain, the sweet young ingenue, the poor but honest young man—in exaggerated situations. Although the stationery store kept only *stock* sizes of paper on hand, the staff would special-order any items not regularly in *stock*.

**stockade** N. wooden enclosure or pen; fixed line of posts used as defensive barrier. The Indians are coming! Quick! Round up the horses and drive them into the *stockade*.

**stodgy** ADJ. stuffy; boringly conservative. For a young person, Winston seems remarkably *stodgy*; you'd expect someone his age to have a little more life.

**stoic** ADJ. impassive; unmoved by joy or grief. I wasn't particularly *stoic* when I had my flu shot; I squealed like a stuck pig. also N. stoicism, N.

**stoke** V. stir up a fire; feed plentifully. As a Scout, Marisa learned how to light a fire, how to *stoke* it if it started to die down, and how to extinguish it completely.

Up  
Not  
easily  
Moved  
**stolid** ADJ. dull; impassive. The earthquake shattered Stuart's usual *stolid* demeanor; trembling, he crouched on the no longer stable ground. stolidity, N.

**stratagem** N. clever trick; deceptive scheme. What a gem of a *stratagem* Watson, I have the perfect plan to trick Moriarty into revealing himself.

**stratified** ADJ. divided into classes; arranged into strata. As the economic gap between the rich and the poor increased, Roman society grew increasingly *stratified*. stratify, V.

**stratum** N. layer of earth's surface; layer of society. Unless we alleviate conditions in the lowest *stratum* of our society, we may expect grumbling and revolt. strata, PL.

**strew** V. spread randomly; sprinkle; scatter. Preceding the bride to the altar, the flower girl will *strew* rose petals along the aisle.

**striated** ADJ. marked with parallel bands; grooved. The glacier left many *striated* rocks. striate, V.

**stricture** N. critical comments; severe and adverse criticism. His *strictures* on the author's style are prejudiced and unwarranted.

**strident** ADJ. loud and harsh; insistent. We could barely hear the speaker over the *strident* cries of the hecklers. stridency, N.

**stringent** ADJ. binding; rigid. I think these regulations are too *stringent*.

**strut** N. pompous walk. His *strut* as he marched about the parade ground revealed him for what he was: a pompous buffoon. also V.

**strut** N. supporting bar. The engineer calculated that the *strut* supporting the rafter needed to be reinforced.

**studied** ADJ. unspontaneous; deliberate; thoughtful. Given Jill's previous slights, Jack felt that the omission of his name from the guest list was a *studied* insult.

**stultify** V. cause to appear, or become stupid or inconsistent; frustrate or hinder. His long hours in the blacking factory left young Dickens numb and incurious, as if the menial labor had *stultified* his mind.

**stupefy** V. make numb; stun; amaze. Disapproving of drugs in general, Laura refused to take sleeping pills or any other medicine that might *stupefy* her.

**stupor** N. state of apathy; daze; lack of awareness. In his *stupor*, the addict was unaware of the events taking place around him.

**stygian** ADJ. gloomy; hellish; deathly. Shielding the flickering candle from any threatening draft, Tom and Becky descended into the *stygian* darkness of the underground cavern. *Stygian* derives from *Stryx*, the chief river in the subterranean land of the dead.

**stymie** V. present an obstacle; stump. The detective was *stymied* by the contradictory evidence in the robbery investigation.

**suavity** N. urbanity; polish. He is particularly good in roles that require *suavity* and sophistication. suave, ADJ.

**subaltern** N. subordinate. The captain treated his *subalterns* as though they were children rather than commissioned officers.

**subdued** ADJ. less intense; quieter. Bob liked the *subdued* lighting at the restaurant because he thought it was romantic. I just thought the place was dimly lit.

**subjective** ADJ. occurring or taking place within the mind; unreal. Your analysis is highly *subjective*; you have permitted your emotions and your opinions to color your thinking.

**subjugate** V. conquer; bring under control. It is not our aim to subjugate our foe; we are interested only in establishing peaceful relations.

**sublimate** V. refine; purify. We must strive to *sublimate* these desires and emotions into worthwhile activities.

**sublime** ADJ. exalted; noble and uplifting; utter. Lucy was in awe of Desi's *sublime* musicianship, while he was in awe of her *sublime* naiveté.

## Test

### Word List 44 Synonyms and Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is

most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

646. SONOROUS (A) resonant (B) reassuring (C) repetitive (D) resinous (E) sisterly
647. SOPHOMORIC (A) unprecedented (B) mature (C) insipid (D) intellectual (E) illusionary
648. SOPORIFIC (A) dining (B) caustic (C) memorial (D) awakening (E) springing
649. SPASMODIC (A) intermittent (B) fit (C) inaccurate (D) violent (E) physical
650. SPORADIC (A) seedy (B) latent (C) vivid (D) inconsequential (E) occasional
651. SPORTIVE (A) competing (B) playful (C) indignant (D) foppish (E) fundamental
652. SPURIOUS (A) genuine (B) angry (C) mitigated (D) interrogated (E) glorious
653. SQUANDER (A) fortify (B) depart (C) roam (D) preserve (E) forfeit
654. STACCATO (A) musical (B) long (C) legato (D) sneezing (E) pounded
655. STAMINA (A) patience (B) pistils (C) weakness (D) fascination (E) patina
656. STEREOTYPED (A) original (B) antique (C) modeled (D) repetitious (E) continued
657. STILTED (A) candid (B) pompous (C) modish (D) acute (E) inarticulate
658. STRINGENT (A) binding (B) reserved (C) utilized (D) lambent (E) indigent
659. SUAVITY (A) ingeniousness (B) indifference (C) urbanity (D) constancy (E) paucity
660. SUBLIME (A) unconscious (B) respected (C) exalted (D) sneaky (E) replaced

## Word List 45      subliminal-tantamount

**subliminal** ADJ. below the threshold. We may not be aware of the *subliminal* influences that affect our thinking.

**submissive** ADJ. yielding; timid. When he refused to permit Elizabeth to marry her poet, Mr. Barrett expected her to be properly *submissive*; instead, she eloped with the guy!

**subordinate** ADJ. occupying a lower rank; inferior; *submissive*. Bishop Proudle's wife expected the *subordinate* clergy to behave with great deference to the wife of their superior. also N.

**suborn** V. persuade to act unlawfully (especially to commit perjury). In *The Godfather*, the mobsters used bribery and threats to *suborn* the witnesses against Don Michael Corleone.

■ **subpoena** N. writ summoning a witness to appear. The prosecutor's office was ready to serve a *subpoena* on the reluctant witness. also V.

**subsequent** ADJ. following; later. In *subsequent* lessons, we shall take up more difficult problems.

**subservient** ADJ. behaving like a slave; servile; obsequious. She was proud and dignified; she refused to be *subservient* to anyone. *subservience*, N.

■ **subside** V. settle down; descend; grow quiet. The doctor assured us that the fever would eventually *subside*.

**subsidiary** ADJ. subordinate; secondary. This information may be used as *subsidiary* evidence but is not sufficient by itself to prove your argument. also N.

**subsidy** N. direct financial aid by government, etc. Without this *subsidy*, American ship operators would not be able to compete in world markets.

**subsistence** N. existence; means of support; livelihood. In those days of inflated prices, my salary provided a mere *subsistence*.

**substantial** ADJ. ample; solid; essential or fundamental. The generous scholarship represented a *substantial* sum of money. If you don't eat a more *substantial* dinner, you'll be hungry later on.

■ **substantiate** V. establish by evidence; verify; support. These endorsements from satisfied customers *substantiate* our claim that Barron's *How to Prepare for the GRE* is the best GRE-prep book on the market.

**substantive** ADJ. essential; pertaining to the substance. Although the delegates were aware of the importance of the problem, they could not agree on the *substantive* issues.

**subsume** V. include; encompass. Does the general theory of relativity contradict Newtonian physics, or is Newton's law of gravity *subsumed* into Einstein's larger scheme?

**subterfuge** N. pretense; evasion. As soon as we realized that you had won our support by a *subterfuge*, we withdrew our endorsement of your candidacy.

**subtlety** N. perceptiveness; ingenuity; delicacy. Never obvious, she expressed herself with such *subtlety* that her remarks went right over the heads of most of her audience. *subtle*, ADJ.

**subversive** ADJ. tending to overthrow; destructive. At first glance, the notion that Styrofoam cups may actually be more ecologically sound than paper cups strikes most environmentalists as *subversive*.

**succinct** ADJ. brief; terse; compact. Don't bore your audience with excess verbiage: be *succinct*.

**succor** V. aid; assist; comfort. If you believe that con man has come here to *succor* you in your hour of need, you're even a bigger sucker than I thought. also N.

**succulent** ADJ. juicy; full of richness. To some people, Florida citrus fruits are more *succulent* than those from California. also N.

succumb v. yield; give in; die. I *succumb* to temptation whenever it comes my way.

suffragist n. advocate of voting rights (for women). In recognition of her efforts to win the vote for women, Congress authorized coining a silver dollar honoring the *suffragist* Susan B. Anthony.

suffuse v. spread over. A blush *suffused* her cheeks when we teased her about her love affair.

sully v. tarnish; soil. He felt that it was beneath his dignity to *sully* his hands in such menial labor.

sultry ADJ. sweltering. He could not adjust himself to the *sultry* climate of the tropics.

summation n. act of finding the total; summary. In his *summation*, the lawyer emphasized the testimony given by the two witnesses.

sumptuous ADJ. lavish; rich. I cannot recall when I have had such a *sumptuous* Thanksgiving feast.

sunder v. separate; part. Northern and southern Ireland are politically and religiously *sundered*.

sundry ADJ. various; several. My suspicions were aroused when I read *sundry* items in the newspapers about your behavior.

superannuated ADJ. retired or disqualified because of age. Don't call me *superannuated*; I can still perform a good day's work!

supercilious ADJ. arrogant; condescending; patronizing. The *supercilious* headwaiter sneered at customers who he thought did not fit the image of a restaurant catering to an ultrafashionable crowd.

supererogatory ADJ. superfluous; more than needed or demanded. We have more than enough witnesses to corroborate your statement; to present any more would be *supererogatory*.

superficial ADJ. trivial; shallow. Since your report gave only a *superficial* analysis of the problem, I cannot give you more than a passing grade.

superfluous ADJ. excessive; overabundant, unnecessary. Please try not to include so many *superfluous* details in your report; just give me the bare facts. superfluity, n.

superimpose v. place over something else. Your attempt to *superimpose* another agency in this field will merely increase the bureaucratic nature of our government.

supernumerary n. person or thing in excess of what is necessary; extra. His first appearance on the stage was as a *supernumerary* in a Shakespearean tragedy.

■ supersede v. cause to be set aside; replace; make obsolete. Bulk mailing postal regulation 326D *supersedes* bulk mailing postal regulation 326C. If, in bundling your bulk mailing, you follow regulation 326C, your bulk mailing will be returned. supersession, n.

supine ADJ. lying on back. The defeated pugilist lay *supine* on the canvas.

supplant v. replace; usurp. Did the other woman actually *supplant* Princess Diana in Prince Charles's affections, or did Charles never love Diana at all? Bolingbroke, later

to be known as King Henry IV, fought to *supplant* his cousin, Richard III, as King of England.

supple ADJ. flexible; pliant. Years of yoga exercises made Grace's body *supple*.

suppliant ADJ. entreating; beseeching. Unable to resist the dog's *suppliant* whimpering, he gave it some food. also n.

supplicate v. petition humbly; pray to grant a favor. We *supplicate* Your Majesty to grant him amnesty.

■ supposition n. hypothesis; surmise. I based my decision to confide in him on the *supposition* that he would be discreet. suppose, v. *Tactful*

supposititious ADJ. assumed; counterfeit; hypothetical. I find no similarity between your *supposititious* illustration and the problem we are facing.

suppress v. stifle; overwhelm; subdue; inhibit. Too polite to laugh in anyone's face, Roy did his best to *suppress* his amusement at Ed's inane remark.

surfeit v. satiate; stuff; indulge to excess in anything. Every Thanksgiving we are *surfeited* with an overabundance of holiday treats. also n.

surly ADJ. rude; cross. Because of his *surly* attitude, many people avoided his company.

surmise v. guess. I *surmise* that he will be late for this meeting. also n.

surmount v. overcome. I know you can *surmount* any difficulties that may stand in the way of your getting an education.

surpass v. exceed. Her SAT scores *surpassed* our expectations.

surreptitious ADJ. secret; furtive; sneaky; hidden. Hoping to discover where his mom had hidden the Christmas presents, Timmy took a *surreptitious* peek into the master bedroom closet.

surrogate n. substitute. For a fatherless child, a male teacher may become a father *surrogate*.

surveillance n. watching; guarding. The FBI kept the house under constant *surveillance* in the hope of capturing all the criminals at one time.

susceptible ADJ. impressionable; easily influenced; heaving little resistance, as to a disease; receptive to. Said the patent medicine man to his very *susceptible* customer: "Buy this new miracle drug, and you will no longer be *susceptible* to the common cold." susceptibility, n.

sustain v. experience; support; nourish. He *sustained* such a severe injury that the doctors feared he would be unable to work to *sustain* his growing family.

sustenance n. means of support, food, nourishment. In the tropics, the natives find *sustenance* easy to obtain because of all the fruit trees.

suture n. stitches sewn to hold the cut edges of a wound or incision; material used in sewing. We will remove the *sutures* as soon as the wound heals. also v.

swarthy ADJ. dark; dusky. Despite the stereotype, not all Italians are *swarthy*; many are fair and blond.

obsolete *supplanted*

**swathe** v. wrap around; bandage. When I visited him in the hospital, I found him *swathed* in bandages.

**swelter** v. be oppressed by heat. I am going to buy an air conditioning unit for my apartment as I do not intend to *swelter* through another hot and humid summer.

**swerve** v. deviate; turn aside sharply. The car *swerved* wildly as the driver struggled to regain control of the wheel.

**swill** v. drink greedily. Singing "Yo, ho, ho, and a bottle of rum," Long John Silver and his fellow pirates *swilled* their grog.

**swindler** n. cheat. She was gullible and trusting, an easy victim for the first *swindler* who came along.

**sybarite** n. lover of luxury. Rich people are not always *sybarites*; some of them have little taste for a life of luxury.

**sycophant** n. servile flatterer; bootlicker; yes man. Fed up with the toadies and brownnosers who made up his entourage, the star cried, "Get out, all of you! I'm sick of *sycophants*!" *sycophantic*, ADJ.

**syllogism** n. logical formula consisting of a major premise, a minor premise and a conclusion; deceptive or specious argument. There must be a fallacy in this *syllogism*; I cannot accept its conclusion.

**sylvan** ADJ. pertaining to the woods; rustic. His paintings of nymphs in *sylvan* backgrounds were criticized as oversentimental.

**symbiosis** n. interdependent relationship (between groups, species), often mutually beneficial. Both the crocodile bird and the crocodile derive benefit from their *symbiosis*; pecking away at food particles embedded in the crocodile's teeth, the bird derives nourishment; the crocodile, meanwhile, derives proper dental hygiene. *symbiotic*, ADJ.

**symmetry** n. arrangement of parts so that balance is obtained; congruity. By definition, something lopsided lacks *symmetry*. *symmetrical*, ADJ.

**synchronous** ADJ. similarly timed; simultaneous with. We have many examples of scientists in different parts of the world who have made *synchronous* discoveries.

**synoptic** ADJ. providing a general overview; summary. The professor turned to the latest issue of *Dissertation Abstracts* for a *synoptic* account of what was new in the field. *synopsis*, N.

**synthesis** n. combining parts into a whole. Now that we have succeeded in isolating this drug, our next problem is to plan its *synthesis* in the laboratory. *syntheses*, PL., *synthesize*, v.

**synthetic** ADJ. artificial; resulting from synthesis. During the twentieth century, many *synthetic* products have replaced their natural counterparts. also N.

**tacit** ADJ. understood; not put into words. We have a *tacit* agreement based on only a handshake.

**taciturn** ADJ. habitually silent; talking little. The stereotypical cowboy is a *taciturn* soul, answering lengthy questions with a "Yep" or "Nope."

**tactile** ADJ. pertaining to the organs or sense of touch. His callused hands had lost their *tactile* sensitivity.

**taint** v. contaminate; cause to lose purity; modify with a trace of something bad. One speck of dirt on your utensils may contain enough germs to *taint* an entire batch of preserves. also N.

**talisman** n. charm. She wore the *talisman* to ward off evil.

**talon** n. claw of bird. The falconer wore a leather gauntlet to avoid being clawed by the hawk's *talons*.

**tangential** ADJ. peripheral; only slightly connected; digressing. Despite Clark's attempts to distract her with *tangential* remarks, Lois kept on coming back to her main question: Why couldn't he come out to dinner with Superman and her?

**tangible** ADJ. able to be touched; real; palpable. Although Tom did not own a house, he had several *tangible* assets—a car, a television, a PC—that he could sell if he needed cash.

**tanner** n. person who turns animal hides into leather. Using a solution of tanbark, the *tanner* treated the cowhide, transforming it into supple leather.

**tantalize** v. tease; torture with disappointment. Tom loved to *tantalize* his younger brother with candy; he knew the boy was forbidden to have it.

**tantamount** ADJ. equivalent in effect or value. Because so few Southern blacks could afford to pay the poll tax, the imposition of this tax on prospective voters was *tantamount* to disenfranchisement for black voters.

## Test

### Word List 45 Synonyms and Antonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

661. SUBLIMINAL (A) radiant (B) indifferent (C) obvious (D) domestic (E) horizontal

662. SUPERANNUATED (A) senile (B) experienced (C) retired (D) attenuated (E) accepted

663. SUPERCILIOUS (A) haughty (B) highbrow (C) angry (D) inane (E) philosophic

664. SUPERFICIAL (A) abnormal (B) portentous (C) shallow (D) angry (E) tiny

665. SUPERNUMERARY (A) miser (B) extra (C) associate (D) astronomer (E) inferiority



666. SUPPLIANT (A) intolerant (B) swallowing (C) beseeching (D) finishing (E) flexible
667. SURFEIT (A) belittle (B) cloy (C) drop (D) estimate (E) claim
668. SURREPTITIOUS (A) secret (B) snakelike (C) nightly (D) abstract (E) furnished
669. SUTURE (A) stitch (B) reflection (C) knitting (D) tailor (E) past
670. SWATHED (A) wrapped around (B) waved (C) gambled (D) rapt (E) mystified
671. SYCOPHANTIC (A) quiet (B) reclusive (C) servilely flattering (D) frolicsome (E) eagerly awaiting
672. SYNTHETIC (A) simplified (B) doubled (C) tuneful (D) artificial (E) fiscal
673. TACIT (A) spoken (B) allowed (C) neutral (D) impertinent (E) unwanted
674. TALISMAN (A) chiel (B) juror (C) medicine man (D) amulet (E) gilt
675. TANTALIZE (A) tease (B) wax (C) warrant (D) authorize (E) summarize

## Word List 46      tantrum-tome

**tantrum** *n.* fit of petulance; caprice. The child learned that he could have almost anything if he went into *tantrums*.

**taper** *n.* candle. She lit the *taper* on the windowsill.

**tarantula** *n.* venomous spider. We need an antitoxin to counteract the bite of the *tarantula*.

**tarry** *v.* delay; dawdle. We can't *tarry* if we want to get to the airport on time.

**taut** *adj.* tight; ready. The captain maintained that he ran a *taut* ship.

**tautological** *adj.* needlessly repetitious. In the sentence "It was visible to the eye," the phrase "to the eye" is *tautological*, *tautology*, *n.*

**tawdry** *adj.* cheap and gaudy. He won a few *tawdry* trinkets at Coney Island.

**taxonomist** *n.* specialist in classifying (animals, etc.). Dental patterns often enable the *taxonomist* to distinguish members of one rodent species from those of another.

**tedium** *n.* boredom; weariness. We hope this radio will help overcome the *tedium* of your stay in the hospital.

**tedious**, *adj.*

**teetotalism** *n.* practice of abstaining totally from alcoholic drinks. Though the doctor warned Bert to cut down his booze intake, she didn't insist that he practice *teetotalism*. *teetotaler*, *n.*

**temerity** *n.* boldness; rashness. Do you have the *temerity* to argue with me?

**temper** *v.* moderate; lunge down or restrain; toughen (steel). Not even her supervisor's grumpiness could *temper* Nancy's enthusiasm for her new job.

**temperament** *n.* characteristic frame of mind; disposition; emotional excess. Although the twins look alike, they differ markedly in *temperament*. Tod is calm, but Rod is excitable.

**temperate** *adj.* restrained; self-controlled; moderate in respect to temperature. Try to be *temperate* in your eating this holiday season; if you control your appetite, you won't gain too much weight. Goldilocks found San Francisco's *temperate* climate neither too hot nor too cold but just right.

**tempestuous** *adj.* stormy; impassioned; violent. Racket-throwing tennis star John McEnroe was famed for his displays of *tempestuous* temperament.

**tempo** *n.* speed of music. I find the conductor's *tempo* too slow for such a brilliant piece of music.

**temporal** *adj.* not lasting forever; limited by time; secular. At one time in our history, *temporal* rulers assumed that they had been given their thrones by divine right.

**temporize** *v.* avoid committing oneself; gain time. I cannot permit you to *temporize* any longer; I must have a definite answer today.

**tenacious** *adj.* holding fast. I had to struggle to break his *tenacious* hold on my arm.

**tenacity** *n.* firmness; persistence. Jean Valjean could not believe the *tenacity* of Inspector Javert. Here all Valjean had done was to steal a loaf of bread, and the Inspector had pursued him doggedly for 20 years!

**tendentious** *adj.* having an aim; biased; designed to further a cause. The editorials in this periodical are *tendentious* rather than truth-seeking.

**tender** *v.* offer; extend. Although no formal charges had been made against him, in the wake of the recent scandal the mayor felt he should *tender* his resignation.

**tenet** *n.* doctrine; dogma. The agnostic did not accept the *tenets* of their faith.

**tensile** *adj.* capable of being stretched. Mountain climbers must know the *tensile* strength of their ropes.

**tentative** *adj.* hesitant; not fully worked out or developed; experimental; not definite or positive. Unsure of his welcome at the Christmas party, Scrooge took a *tentative* step into his nephew's drawing room.

**tenuous** *adj.* thin; rare; slim. The allegiance of our allies is held by rather *tenuous* ties; let us hope they will remain loyal.

**tenure** *n.* holding of an office; time during which such an office is held. She has permanent *tenure* in this position and cannot be fired.

**tepid** *adj.* lukewarm. During the summer, I like to take a *tepid* bath, not a hot one.

**termination** N. end. Though the time for *termination* of the project was near, we still had a lot of work to finish before we shut up shop. *terminate*, V.

**terminology** N. terms used in a science or art. The special *terminology* developed by some authorities in the field has done more to confuse laypersons than to enlighten them.

**terminus** N. last stop of railroad. After we reached the railroad *terminus*, we continued our journey into the wilderness on saddle horses.

**terrestrial** ADJ. on or relating to the earth. We have been able to explore the *terrestrial* regions much more thoroughly than the aquatic or celestial regions.

**terse** ADJ. concise; abrupt; pithy. There is a fine line between speech that is *terse* and to the point and speech that is too abrupt.

**tertiary** ADJ. third. He is so thorough that he analyzes *tertiary* causes where other writers are content with primary and secondary reasons.

**tesselated** ADJ. inlaid; mosaic. I recall seeing a table with a *tesselated* top of bits of stone and glass in a very interesting pattern.

**testator** N. maker of a will. The attorney called in his secretary and his partner to witness the signature of the *testator*.

**testy** ADJ. irritable; short-tempered. My advice is to avoid discussing this problem with her today as she is, rather *testy* and may shout at you. *testiness*, N.

**tether** V. tie with a rope. Before we went to sleep, we *tethered* the horses to prevent their wandering off during the night.

**thematic** ADJ. relating to a unifying motif or idea. Those who think of *Moby Dick* as a simple adventure story about whaling miss its underlying *thematic* import.

**theocracy** N. government run by religious leaders. Though some Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower favored the establishment of a *theocracy* in New England, many of their fellow voyagers preferred a nonreligious form of government.

**theoretical** ADJ. not practical or applied; hypothetical. Bob was better at applied engineering and computer programming than he was at *theoretical* physics and math. While I can still think of some *theoretical* objections to your plan, you've convinced me of its basic soundness.

**therapeutic** ADJ. curative. Now better known for its race-track, Saratoga Springs first gained attention for the *therapeutic* qualities of its famous "healing waters."

**thermal** ADJ. pertaining to heat. The natives discovered that the hot springs gave excellent *thermal* baths and began to develop their community as a health resort. also N.

**thespian** ADJ. pertaining to drama. Her success in the school play convinced her she was destined for a *thespian* career. also N.

**thrall** N. slave; bondage. The captured soldier was held in *thrall* by the conquering army.

**threadbare** ADJ. worn through till the threads show; shabby and poor. The poorly paid adjunct professor hid the *threadbare* spots on his jacket by sewing leather patches on his sleeves.

**thrifty** ADJ. careful about money; economical. A *thrifty* shopper compares prices before making major purchases.

**thrive** V. prosper; flourish. Despite the impact of the recession on the restaurant trade, Philip's cafe *thrived*.

**throes** N. violent anguish. The *throes* of despair can be as devastating as the spasms accompanying physical pain.

**throng** N. crowd. *Throngs* of shoppers jammed the aisles. also V.

**throttle** V. strangle. The criminal tried to *throttle* the old man with his bare hands.

**thwart** V. baffle; frustrate. He felt that everyone was trying to *thwart* his plans and prevent his success.

**tightwad** N. excessively frugal person; miser. Jill called Jack a *tightwad* because he never picked up the check.

**tiller** N. handle used to move boat's rudder (to steer). Fearing the wind might shift suddenly and capsize the skiff, Tom kept one hand on the *tiller* at all times.

**timbre** N. quality of a musical tone produced by a musical instrument. We identify the instrument producing a musical sound by its *timbre*.

**timidity** N. lack of self-confidence or courage. If you are to succeed as a salesperson, you must first lose your *timidity* and fear of failure.

**timorous** ADJ. fearful; demonstrating fear. Her *timorous* manner betrayed the anxiety she felt at the moment.

**tipple** V. drink (alcoholic beverages) frequently. He found that his most enjoyable evenings occurred when he *tippled* with his friends at the local pub. N. (KAY-ANG)

**tirade** N. extended scolding; denunciation; harangue. Every time the boss holds a meeting, he goes into a lengthy *tirade*, scolding us for everything from tardiness to padding our expenses.

**titanic** ADJ. gigantic. *Titanic* waves beat against the majestic S.S. *Titanic*, driving it against the concealed iceberg. *tilan*, N.

**tithe** N. tax of one-tenth. Because he was an agnostic, he refused to pay his *tithes* to the clergy. also V.

**titillate** V. tickle. I am here not to *titillate* my audience but to enlighten it.

**title** N. right or claim to possession; mark of rank; name (of a book, film, etc.). Though the penniless Duke of Ragwort no longer held *title* to the family estate, he still retained his *title* as head of one of England's oldest families.

**titter** N. nervous laugh. Her aunt's constant *titter* nearly drove her mad. also V.

**titular** ADJ. having the title of an office without the obligations. Although he was the *titular* head of the company, the real decisions were made by his general manager.

**toady** *n.* servile flatterer; yes man. Never tell the boss anything he doesn't wish to hear; he doesn't want an independent adviser, he just wants a *toady*. also *v.*

**toga** *n.* Roman outer robe. Marc Antony pointed to the slashes in Caesar's *toga*.

**tome** *n.* large volume. She spent much time in the libraries poring over ancient *tomes*.

## Test

### Word List 46 Synonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

676. TARRY (A) polish (B) restrain (C) surpass (D) linger (E) disturb

677. TAUTOLOGY (A) memory (B) repetition (C) tension (D) simile (E) lack of logic

678. TAWDRY (A) orderly (B) meretricious (C) reclaimed (D) filtered (E) proper

679. TEMERITY (A) timidity (B) resourcefulness (C) boldness (D) tremulousness (E) caution

680. TEMPORAL (A) priestly (B) scholarly (C) secular (D) sleepy (E) sporadic

681. TENACIOUS (A) last running (B) intentional (C) obnoxious (D) holding fast (E) collecting

682. TENACITY (A) splendor (B) perseverance (C) tendency (D) ingratitude (E) decimation

683. TENDENTIOUS (A) biased (B) likely (C) absurd (D) festive (E) literary

684. TENTATIVE (A) prevalent (B) portable (C) mocking (D) wry (E) experimental

685. TENUOUS (A) vital (B) thin (C) carelul (D) dangerous (E) necessary

686. TEPID (A) boiling (B) lukewarm (C) freezing (D) gaseous (E) cold

687. TERSE (A) brief in speech (B) bold in manner (C) under strain (D) without honor (E) beyond fear

688. TESSELATED (A) striped (B) made of mosaics (C) piebald (D) uniform (E) trimmed

689. THESPIAN (A) foreigner (B) skeptic (C) daydreamer (D) magician (E) actor

690. TITILLATE (A) hasten (B) fasten (C) stimulate (D) incorporate (E) enlarge

### Word List 47 tonsure-ubiquitous

**tonsure** *n.* shaving of the head, especially by person entering religious orders. His *tonsure*, even more than his monastic garb, indicated that he was a member of the religious order.

**topography** *n.* physical features of a region. Before the generals gave the order to attack, they ordered a complete study of the *topography* of the region.

■ **torpor** *n.* lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy. Throughout the winter, nothing aroused the bear from his *torpor*; he would not emerge from hibernation until spring. **torpid**, *adj.*

**torque** *n.* twisting force; force producing rotation. With her wrench she applied sufficient *torque* to the nut to loosen it.

**torrent** *n.* rushing stream; flood. Day after day of heavy rain saturated the hillside until the water ran downhill in *torrents*. **torrential**, *adj.*

**torrid** *adj.* passionate; hot or scorching. The novels published by Harlequin Romances feature *torrid* love affairs, some set in *torrid* climates.

**torso** *n.* trunk of statue with head and limbs missing; human trunk. This *torso*, found in the ruins of Pompeii, is now on exhibition in the museum in Naples.

■ **tortuous** *adj.* winding; full of curves. Because this road is so *tortuous*, it is unwise to go faster than twenty miles an hour on it.

**totter** *v.* move unsteadily; sway, as if about to fall. On unsteady feet, the drunk *tottered* down the hill to the nearest bar.

**touchstone** *n.* stone used to test the fineness of gold alloys; criterion. What *touchstone* can be used to measure the character of a person?

**touchy** *adj.* sensitive; irascible. Do not discuss his acne with Archy; he is very *touchy* about it.

**tout** *v.* publicize; praise excessively. I lost confidence in my broker after he *touted* some junk bonds that turned out to be a bad investment.

**toxic** *adj.* poisonous. We must seek an antidote for whatever *toxic* substance he has eaten. **toxicity**, *n.*

**tract** *n.* pamphlet; a region of indefinite size. The King granted William Penn a *tract* of land in the New World.

■ **tractable** *adj.* docile; easily managed. Although Susan seemed a *tractable* young woman, she had a stubborn streak of independence that occasionally led her to defy the powers-that-be when she felt they were in the wrong. **tractability**, *n.*

**traduce** v. expose to slander. His opponents tried to *traduce* the candidate's reputation by spreading rumors about his past.

**trajectory** n. path taken by a projectile. The police tried to locate the spot from which the assassin had fired the fatal shot by tracing the *trajectory* of the bullet.

**tranquillity** n. calmness; peace. After the commotion and excitement of the city, I appreciate the *tranquillity* of these fields and forests.

**transcendent** adj. surpassing; exceeding ordinary limits; superior. Standing on the hillside watching the sunset through the Golden Gate was a *transcendent* experience for Lise: the sight was so beautiful it surpassed her wildest dreams. **transcend** v. transcendence, n.

**transcribe** v. copy. When you *transcribe* your notes, please send a copy to Mr. Smith and keep the original for our files. **transcription**, n.

■ **transgression** n. violation of a law; sin. Forgive us our *transgressions*; we know not what we do.

**transient** adj. momentary; temporary; staying for a short time. Lexy's joy at finding the perfect Christmas gift for Phil was *transient*; she still had to find presents for the cousins and Uncle Bob. Located near the airport, this hotel caters to the largely *transient* trade. also n.

**transition** n. going from one state of action to another. During the period of *transition* from oil heat to gas heat, the furnace will have to be shut off.

**transitory** adj. impermanent; fleeting. Fame is *transitory*; today's rising star is all too soon tomorrow's washed-up has-been. **transitoriness**, n.

**translucent** adj. partly transparent. We could not recognize the people in the next room because of the *translucent* curtains that separated us.

**transmute** v. change; convert to something different. He was unable to *transmute* his dreams into actualities.

**transparent** adj. easily detected; permitting light to pass through freely. John's pride in his son is *transparent*; no one who sees the two of them together can miss it. **transparency**, n.

**transpire** v. be revealed; happen. When Austen writes the sentence "It had just *transpired* that he had left gambling debts behind him," her meaning is not that the debts had just been incurred, but that the shocking news had just leaked out.

**transport** n. strong emotion. Margo was a creature of extremes, at one moment in *transports* of joy over a vivid sunset, at another moment in *transports* of grief over a dying bird. also v.

**trappings** n. outward decorations; ornaments. He loved the *trappings* of success: the limousines, the stock options, the company jet.

**traumatic** adj. pertaining to an injury caused by violence. In his nightmares, he kept on recalling the *traumatic* experience of being wounded in battle. **trauma**, n.

**travail** n. painful labor. How long do you think a man can endure such *travail* and degradation without rebelling?

**traverse** v. go through or across. When you *traverse* this field, be careful of the bull.

**travesty** n. comical parody; treatment aimed at making something appear ridiculous. The ridiculous decision the jury has arrived at is a *travesty* of justice.

**treatise** n. article treating a subject systematically and thoroughly. He is preparing a *treatise* on the Elizabethan playwrights for his graduate degree.

**trek** n. travel; journey. The tribe made their *trek* further north that summer in search of game. also v.

**tremor** n. trembling; slight quiver. She had a nervous *tremor* in her right hand.

**tremulous** adj. trembling; wavering. She was *tremulous* more from excitement than from fear.

**trenchant** adj. cutting; keen. I am afraid of his *trenchant* wit for it is so often sarcastic.

**trepidation** n. fear; nervous apprehension. As she entered the office of the dean of admissions, Sharon felt some *trepidation* about how she would do in her interview.

**tribulation** n. distress; suffering. After all the trials and *tribulations* we have gone through, we need this rest.

**tribunal** n. court of justice. The decision of the *tribunal* was final and the prisoner was sentenced to death.

**tribute** n. tax levied by a ruler; mark of respect. The colonists refused to pay *tribute* to a foreign despot.

**trident** n. three-pronged spear. Neptune is usually depicted as rising from the sea, carrying his *trident* on his shoulder.

**trifling** adj. trivial; unimportant. Why bother going to see a doctor for such a *trifling*, everyday cold? **trifle**, n.

**trigger** v. set off. John is touchy today; say one word wrong and you'll *trigger* an explosion.

**trilogy** n. group of three works. Romain Rolland's novel *Jean Christophe* was first published as a *trilogy*.

**trinket** n. knickknack; bauble. Whenever she traveled abroad, Ethel would pick up costume jewelry and other *trinkets* as souvenirs.

**trite** adj. hackneyed; commonplace. The *trite* and predictable situations in many television programs turn off many viewers, who, in turn, turn off their sets.

**trivia** n. trilles; unimportant matters. Too many magazines ignore newsworthy subjects and feature *trivia*.

**troth** n. pledge of good faith especially in betrothal. He gave her his *troth* and vowed to cherish her always.

**trough** n. container for feeding farm animals; lowest point (of a wave, business cycle, etc.). The hungry pigs struggled to get at the fresh swill in the *trough*. The surfer rode her board, coasting along in the *trough* between two waves.

■ **truculence** n. aggressiveness; ferocity. Tynan's reviews were noted for their caustic attacks and general tone of *truculence*. **truculent**, adj.

**truism** n. self-evident truth. Many a *truism* is summed up in a proverb; for example, "Marry in haste, repent at leisure."

**truncate** v. cut the top off. The top of the cone that has been *truncated* in a plane parallel to its base is a circle.

**tryst** n. meeting. The lovers kept their *tryst* even though they realized their danger. also v.

tumid ADJ. swollen; pompous; bombastic. I especially dislike his *tumid* style; I prefer writing that is less swollen and bombastic.

tumult N. commotion; riot; noise. She could not make herself heard over the *tumult* of the mob.

tundra N. rolling, treeless plain in Siberia and arctic North America. Despite the cold, many geologists are trying to discover valuable mineral deposits in the *tundra*.

turbid ADJ. muddy; having the sediment disturbed. The water was *turbid* after the children had waded through it.

turbulence N. state of violent agitation. Warned of approaching *turbulence* in the atmosphere, the pilot told the passengers to fasten their seat belts.

tureen N. deep dish for serving soup. The waiters brought the soup to the tables in silver *tureens*.

turgid ADJ. swollen; distended. The *turgid* river threatened to overflow the levees and flood the countryside.

turmoil N. great commotion and confusion. Lydia running off with a soldier! Mother fainting at the news! The Bennet household was in *turmoil*.

turncoat N. traitor. The British considered Benedict Arnold a *loyalist*; the Americans considered him a *turncoat*.

turpitude N. depravity. A visitor may be denied admittance to this country if she has been guilty of moral *turpitude*.

tutelage N. guardianship; training. Under the *tutelage* of such masters of the instrument, she made rapid progress as a virtuoso.

tutelary ADJ. protective; pertaining to a guardianship. I am acting in my *tutelary* capacity when I refuse to grant you permission to leave the campus.

tycoon N. wealthy leader. John D. Rockefeller was a prominent *tycoon*.

typhoon N. tropical hurricane or cyclone. If you liked *Twister*, you'll love *Typhoon*!

tyranny N. oppression; cruel government. Frederick Douglass fought against the *tyranny* of slavery throughout his entire life.

tyro N. beginner; novice. For a mere *tyro*, you have produced some marvelous results.

ubiquitous ADJ. being everywhere; omnipresent. That Christmas "The Little Drummer Boy" seemed *ubiquitous*; Justin heard the tune everywhere he went. ubiquity, N.

## Test

### Word List 47 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

691. TRACTABLE (A) unmanageable (B) irreligious (C) mortal (D) incapable (E) unreal

692. TRADUCE (A) exhume (B) increase (C) purchase (D) extol (E) donate

693. TRANQUILLITY (A) lack of sleep (B) lack of calm (C) emptiness (D) renewal (E) closeness

694. TRANSIENT (A) carried (B) close (C) permanent (D) removed (E) certain

695. TREMULOUS (A) steady (B) obese (C) young (D) healthy (E) unkempt

696. TRENCHANT (A) lacking bite (B) imperious (C) inessential (D) unalraid (E) narrow-minded

697. TREPIDATION (A) slowness (B) amputation (C) fearlessness (D) adroitness (E) death

698. TRITE (A) correct (B) original (C) distinguished (D) premature (E) certain

699. TRUCULENT (A) juicy (B) overflowing (C) peaceful (D) determined (E) false

700. TUMULT (A) scarcity (B) defeat (C) coolness (D) density (E) serenity

701. TURBID (A) clear (B) improbable (C) invariable (D) honest (E) turgid

702. TURBULENCE (A) reaction (B) approach (C) impropriety (D) calm (E) hostility

703. TURGID (A) rancid (B) shrunken (C) cool (D) explosive (E) painful

704. TURPITUDE (A) amplitude (B) heat (C) wealth (D) virtue (E) quiet

705. TYRO (A) infant (B) rubber (C) personnel (D) idiot (E) expert

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## Word List 48     ulterior-vehement

**ulterior** ADJ. situated beyond; unstated and often questionable. You must have an *ulterior* motive for your behavior, since there is no obvious reason for it.

**ultimate** ADJ. final; not susceptible to further analysis. Scientists are searching for the *ultimate* truths.

**ultimatum** N. last demand; warning. Since they have ignored our *ultimatum*, our only recourse is to declare war.

**umbrage** N. resentment; anger; sense of injury or insult. She took *umbrage* at his remarks and stormed away in a huff.

**unaccountable** ADJ. inexplicable; unreasonable or mysterious. I have taken an *unaccountable* dislike to my doctor: "I do not love thee, Doctor Fell. The reason why, I cannot tell."

**unanimity** N. complete agreement. We were surprised by the *unanimity* with which our proposals were accepted by the different groups. **unanimous**, ADJ.

**unassailable** ADJ. not subject to question; not open to attack. Penelope's virtue was *unassailable*; while she waited for her husband to come back from the war, no other guy had a chance.

**unassuaged** ADJ. unsatisfied; not soothed. Her anger is *unassuaged* by your apology.

**unassuming** ADJ. modest. He is so *unassuming* that some people fail to realize how great a man he really is.

**unbridled** ADJ. violent. She had a sudden fit of *unbridled* rage.

**uncanny** ADJ. strange; mysterious. You have the *uncanny* knack of reading my innermost thoughts.

**unconscionable** ADJ. unscrupulous; excessive. She found the loan shark's demands *unconscionable* and impossible to meet.

**uncouth** ADJ. outlandish; clumsy; boorish. Most biographers portray Lincoln as an *uncouth* and *ungainly* young man.

**unction** N. the act of anointing with oil. The anointing with oil of a person near death is called extreme *unction*.

**unctuous** ADJ. oily; bland; insincerely suave. Uriah Heep disguised his nefarious actions by *unctuous* protestations of his "umility."

**underlying** ADJ. fundamental; lying below. The *underlying* cause of the student riot was not the strict curfew rule but the moldy cafeteria food. Miss Marple seems a sweet little old lady at first, but an iron will *underlies* that soft and fluffy facade.

**undermine** V. weaken; sap. The recent corruption scandals have *undermined* many people's faith in the city government.

**underscore** V. emphasize. Addressing the jogging class, Kim *underscored* the importance to runners of good nutrition.

**undulating** ADJ. moving with a wavelike motion. The Hilo Hula Festival featured an *undulating* sea of grass skirts.

**unearth** V. dig up. When they *unearthed* the city, the archeologists found many relics of an ancient civilization.

**unearthly** ADJ. not earthly; weird. There is an *unearthly* atmosphere in her work that amazes the casual observer.

**unequivocal** ADJ. plain; obvious. My answer to your proposal is an *unequivocal* and absolute "No."

**unerringly** ADV. infallibly. My teacher *unerringly* pounced on the one typographical error in my essay.

**unexceptionable** ADJ. not offering any basis for criticism; entirely acceptable. Objecting to Jack's lack of a respectable family background, Lady Bracknell declared that Cecily could marry only a man of *unexceptionable* lineage and character.

**unfaltering** ADJ. steadfast. She approached the guillotine with *unfaltering* steps.

**unfeigned** ADJ. genuine; real. She turned so pale that I am sure her surprise was *unfeigned*.

**unfettered** ADJ. liberated; freed from chains. Chained to the wall for months on end, the hostage despaired that he would ever be *unfettered*. **unfetter**, V.

**unfledged** ADJ. immature. It is hard for an *unfledged* writer to find a sympathetic publisher.

**unfrock** V. to strip a priest or minister of church authority. To disbar a lawyer, to *unfrock* a priest, to suspend a doctor's license to practice—these are extreme steps that the authorities should take only after careful consideration.

**ungainly** ADJ. awkward; clumsy; unwieldy. "If you want to know whether Nick's an *ungainly* dancer, check out my bruised feet," said Nora. Anyone who has ever tried to carry a bass fiddle knows it's an *ungainly* instrument.

**unguent** N. ointment. Apply this *unguent* to the sore muscles before retiring.

**uniformity** N. sameness; monotony. At *Persons* magazine, we strive for *uniformity* of style; as a result, all our writers wind up sounding exactly alike. **uniform**, ADJ.

**unilateral** ADJ. one-sided. This legislation is *unilateral* since it binds only one party in the controversy.

**unimpeachable** ADJ. blameless and exemplary. Her conduct in office was *unimpeachable* and her record is spotless.

**uninhibited** ADJ. unrepressed. The congregation was shocked by her *uninhibited* laughter during the sermon.

**unintimidating** ADJ. unfrightening. Though Phil had expected to feel overawed when he met Joe Montana, he found the world-famous quarterback friendly and *unintimidating*.

**unique** ADJ. without an equal; single in kind. You have the *unique* distinction of being the first student whom I have had to fail in this course.

**unison** N. unity of pitch; complete accord. The choir sang in *unison*.



universal ADJ. characterizing or affecting all; present everywhere. At first, no one shared Christopher's opinions; his theory that the world was round was met with *universal* disdain.

unkempt ADJ. disheveled; uncared for in appearance. Jeremy hated his neighbor's *unkempt* lawn; he thought its neglected appearance had a detrimental effect on neighborhood property values.

unmitigated ADJ. unrelieved or immoderate; absolute. After four days of *unmitigated* heat, I was ready to collapse from heat prostration. The congresswoman's husband was an *unmitigated* jerk; not only did he abandon her, but also he took her campaign funds!

unobtrusive ADJ. inconspicuous; not blatant. Reluctant to attract notice, the governess took a chair in a far corner of the room and tried to be as *unobtrusive* as possible.

unprecedented ADJ. novel; unparalleled. Margaret Mitchell's book *Gone with the Wind* was an *unprecedented* success.

unprepossessing ADJ. unattractive. During adolescence many attractive young people somehow acquire the false notion that their appearance is *unprepossessing*.

unravel v. disentangle; solve. With equal ease Miss Marple *unraveled* tangled balls of yarn and baffling murder mysteries.

unrequited ADJ. not reciprocated. Suffering the pangs of *unrequited* love, Olivia rebukes Cesário for his hardheartedness.

unruly ADJ. disobedient; lawless. The only way to curb this *unruly* mob is to use tear gas.

unsavory ADJ. distasteful; morally offensive. People with *unsavory* reputations should not be allowed to work with young children.

unscathed ADJ. unharmed. They prayed he would come back from the war *unscathed*.

unseemly ADJ. unbecoming; indecent; in poor taste. When Seymour put whoopee cushions on all the seats in the funeral parlor, his conduct was most *unseemly*.

unsightly ADJ. ugly. Although James was an experienced emergency room nurse, he occasionally became queasy when faced with a particularly *unsightly* injury.

unsullied ADJ. untarnished. I am happy that my reputation is *unsullied*.

untenable ADJ. indefensible; not able to be maintained. Wayne is so contrary that, the more *untenable* a position is, the harder he'll try to defend it.

untoward ADJ. unfortunate or unlucky; adverse; unexpected. Trying to sneak out of the house, Huck had a most *untoward* encounter with Miss Watson, who thwarted his escape.

unwarranted ADJ. unjustified; groundless; undeserved. We could not understand Martin's *unwarranted* rudeness to his mother's guests.

unwieldy ADJ. awkward; cumbersome; unmanageable. The large carton was so *unwieldy* that the movers had trouble getting it up the stairs.

unwitting ADJ. unintentional; not knowing. She was the *unwitting* tool of the swindlers.

unwonted ADJ. unaccustomed. He hesitated to assume the *unwonted* role of master of ceremonies at the dinner.

upbraid v. severely scold; reprimand. Not only did Miss Minchin *upbraid* Ermengarde for her disobedience, but also she hung her up by her braids from a coatrack in the classroom.

uproarious ADJ. marked by commotion; extremely funny; very noisy. The *uproarious* comedy hit *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective* starred Jim Carrey, whose comic mugging provoked gales of *uproarious* laughter from audiences coast to coast.

upshot n. outcome. The *upshot* of the rematch was that the former champion proved that he still possessed all the skills of his youth.

urbane ADJ. suave; refined; elegant. The courtier was *urbane* and sophisticated. urbanity, n.

urchin n. mischievous child (usually a boy). Get out! This store is no place for grubby *urchins*!

ursine ADJ. bearlike; pertaining to a bear. Because of its *ursine* appearance, the great panda has been identified with the bears; actually, it is closely related to the raccoon.

usurp v. seize another's power or rank. The revolution ended when the victorious rebel general succeeded in his attempt to *usurp* the throne. usurpation, n.

usury n. lending money at illegal rates of interest. The loan shark was found guilty of *usury*.

utopia n. ideal place, state, or society. Fed up with this imperfect universe, Don would have liked to run off to Shangri-la or some other imaginary *utopia*. utopian, ADJ.

uxorious ADJ. excessively devoted to one's wife. His friends laughed at him because he was so *uxorious* and submissive to his wife's desires.

■ vacillate v. waver; fluctuate. Uncertain which suitor she ought to marry, the princess *vacillated*, saying now one, now the other. vacillation, n.

vacuous ADJ. empty; lacking in ideas; stupid. The candidate's *vacuous* remarks annoyed the audience, who had hoped to hear more than empty platitudes. vacuity, n.

vagabond n. wanderer; tramp. In summer, college students wander the roads of Europe like carefree *vagabonds*. also ADJ.

vagary n. caprice; whim. She followed every *vagary* of fashion.

vagrant ADJ. stray; random. He tried to study, but could not collect his *vagrant* thoughts.

vagrant n. homeless wanderer. Because he was a stranger in town with no visible means of support, Martin feared he would be jailed as a *vagrant*. vagrancy, n.

vainglorious ADJ. boastful; excessively conceited. She was a *vainglorious* and arrogant individual.

valedictory ADJ. pertaining to farewell. I found the *valedictory* address too long; leave-taking should be brief. also n.

**valid** ADJ. logically convincing; sound; legally acceptable. You're going to have to come up with a better argument if you want to convince me that your reasoning is *valid*.

**validate** V. confirm; ratify. I will not publish my findings until I *validate* my results.

**valor** N. bravery. He received the Medal of Honor for his *valor* in battle.

**vampire** N. ghostly being that sucks the blood of the living. Children were afraid to go to sleep at night because of the many legends of *vampires*.

**vanguard** N. forerunners; advance forces. We are the *vanguard* of a tremendous army that is following us.

**vantage** N. position giving an advantage. They fired upon the enemy from behind trees, walls and any other point of *vantage* they could find.

**vapid** ADJ. dull and unimaginative; insipid and flavorless. "Bor-ing!" said Cher, as she suffered through yet another *vapid* lecture about Dead White Male Poets.

**vaporize** V. turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.). "Zap!" went Super Mario's atomic ray gun as he *vaporized* another deadly foe.

**variegated** ADJ. many-colored. Without her glasses, Gretchen saw the fields of tulips as a *variegated* blur.

**vassal** N. in feudalism, one who held land of a superior lord. The lord demanded that his *vassals* contribute more to his military campaign.

**vaunted** ADJ. boasted; bragged; highly publicized. This much *vaunted* project proved a disappointment when it collapsed.

**veer** V. change in direction. After what seemed an eternity, the wind *veered* to the east and the storm abated.

**vegetate** V. live in a monotonous way. I do not understand how you can *vegetate* in this quiet village after the adventurous life you have led.

**vehement** ADJ. forceful; intensely emotional; with marked vigor. Alfred became so *vehement* in describing what was wrong with the Internal Revenue Service that he began jumping up and down and gesticulating wildly. *vehemence*, N.

## Test

### Word List 48 Antonyms

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

706. UNEARTH (A) conceal (B) gnaw (C) clean (D) fling (E) react
707. UNFEIGNED (A) pretended (B) fashionable (C) wary (D) switched (E) colonial
708. UNGAINLY (A) ignorant (B) graceful (C) detailed (D) dancing (E) pedantic
709. UNIMPEACHABLE (A) fruitful (B) rampaging (C) faulty (D) pensive (E) thorough
710. UNKEMPT (A) bombed (B) washed (C) neat (D) showy (E) tawdry
711. UNRULY (A) chatting (B) obedient (C) definite (D) lined (E) curious

712. UNSEEMLY (A) effortless (B) proper (C) conducive (D) pointed (E) informative
713. UNSULLIED (A) tarnished (B) countless (C) soggy (D) papered (E) homicidal
714. UNTENABLE (A) supportable (B) tender (C) sheepish (D) tremulous (E) adequate
715. UNWITTING (A) clever (B) intense (C) sensitive (D) freezing (E) intentional
716. VACILLATION (A) remorse (B) relief (C) respect (D) steadfastness (E) inoculation
717. VALEDICTORY (A) sad (B) collegiate (C) derivative (D) salutatory (E) promising
718. VALOR (A) admonition (B) injustice (C) cowardice (D) generosity (E) repression
719. VANGUARD (A) regiment (B) rear (C) echelon (D) protection (E) loyalty
720. VAUNTED (A) unvanquished (B) fell (C) belittled (D) exacting (E) believed

### Word List 49 velocity-vogue

**velocity** N. speed. The train went by at considerable *velocity*.

**venal** ADJ. capable of being bribed. The *venal* policeman accepted the bribe offered him by the speeding motorist whom he had stopped.

**vendetta** N. blood feud. The rival mobs engaged in a bitter *vendetta*.

**vendor** N. seller. The fruit *vendor* sold her wares from a stall on the sidewalk.

*veneer* *n.* thin layer; cover. Casual acquaintances were deceived by his *veneer* of sophistication and failed to recognize his fundamental shallowness.

*venerable* *adj.* deserving high respect. We do not mean to be disrespectful when we refuse to follow the advice of our *venerable* leader.

Respectfully  
 ■ *venerate* *v.* *revere*. In Tibet today, the common people still *venerate* their traditional spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

*venial* *adj.* forgivable; trivial. When Jean Valjean stole a loaf of bread to feed his starving sister, he committed a *venial* offense.

*venison* *n.* the meat of a deer. The hunters dined on *venison*.

*venom* *n.* poison; hatred. Bitten on his ankle by a *venomous* snake, the cowboy contortionist curled up like a pretzel and sucked the *venom* out of the wound.

*vent* *n.* small opening; outlet. The wine did not flow because the air *vent* in the barrel was clogged.

*vent* *v.* express; utter. He *vented* his wrath on his class.

*ventral* *v.* abdominal. We shall now examine the *ventral* plates of this serpent, not the dorsal side.

*ventriloquist* *n.* someone who can make his or her voice seem to come from another person or thing. This *ventriloquist* does an act in which she has a conversation with a wooden dummy.

*venture* *v.* risk; dare; undertake a risk. Fearing to distress the actors, the timorous reviewer never *ventured* to criticize a performance in harsh terms. also *n.*

*venturesome* *adj.* bold. A group of *venturesome* women were the first to scale Mt. Annapurna.

*venue* *n.* location. The attorney asked for a change of *venue*; he thought his client would do better if the trial were held in a less conservative county.

■ *veracious* *adj.* truthful. I can recommend him for this position because I have always found him *veracious* and reliable. *veracity*, *n.*

*veracity* *n.* truthfulness. Trying to prove Hill a liar, Senator Spector repeatedly questioned her *veracity*. *veracious*, *adj.*

*verbalize* *v.* put into words. I know you don't like to talk about these things, but please try to *verbalize* your feelings.

*verbatim* *adv.* word for word. He repeated the message *verbatim*. also *adj.*

*verbiage* *n.* pompous array of words. After we had waded through all the *verbiage*, we discovered that the writer had said very little.

■ *verbose* *adj.* wordy. We had to make some major cuts in Senator Foghorn's speech because it was far too *verbose*. *verbosity*, *n.*

*verdant* *adj.* green; lush in vegetation. Monet's paintings of the *verdant* meadows were symphonies in green.

*verdigris* *n.* green coating on copper that has been exposed to the weather. Despite all attempts to protect

the statue from the elements, it became coated with *verdigris*.

*verge* *n.* border; edge. Madame Curie knew she was on the *verge* of discovering the secrets of radioactive elements. also *v.*

*verisimilar* *adj.* probable or likely; having the appearance of truth. Something *verisimilar* is very similar to the truth, or at least seems to be.

*verisimilitude* *n.* appearance of truth; likelihood. Critics praised her for the *verisimilitude* of her performance as Lady Macbeth. She was completely believable.

*veritable* *adj.* actual; being truly so; not false or imaginary. At his computer, Pavel is a *veritable* wizard, creating graphic effects that seem magical to programmers less skilled than he.

*verity* *n.* quality of being true; lasting truth or principle. Do you question the *verity* of Kato Kaelin's testimony about what he heard the night Nicole Brown Simpson was slain? To the skeptic, everything was relative: there were no eternal *verities* in which one could believe.

*vernacular* *n.* living language; natural style. Cut out those old-fashioned "thee's" and "thou's" and write in the *vernacular*. also *adj.*

*vernal* *adj.* pertaining to spring. We may expect *vernal* showers all during the month of April.

*versatile* *adj.* having many talents; capable of working in many fields. She was a *versatile* athlete, earning varsity letters in basketball, hockey, and track. *versatility*, *n.*

*vertex* *n.* summit. Let us drop a perpendicular line from the *vertex* of the triangle to the base. *vertices*, *pl.*

*vertigo* *n.* severe dizziness. When you test potential plane pilots for susceptibility to spells of *vertigo*, be sure to hand out airsick bags.

*verve* *n.* enthusiasm; liveliness. She approached her studies with such *verve* that it was impossible for her to do poorly.

*vestige* *n.* trace; remains. We discovered *vestiges* of early Indian life in the cave.

*vex* *n.* annoy; distress. Please try not to *vex* your mother; she is doing the best she can.

■ *viable* *adj.* practical or workable; capable of maintaining life. The plan to build a new baseball stadium, though missing a few details, is *viable* and stands a good chance of winning popular support.

*viant* *n.* food. There was a variety of *viands* at the feast.

*vicarious* *adj.* acting as a substitute; done by a deputy. Many people get a *vicarious* thrill at the movies by imagining they are the characters on the screen.

*vicissitude* *n.* change of fortune. Humbled by life's *vicissitudes*, the last emperor of China worked as a lowly gardener in the palace over which he had once ruled.

*victuals* *n.* food. I am very happy to be able to provide you with these *victuals*; I know you are hungry.

*vie* *v.* contend; compete. Politicians *vie* with one another, competing for donations and votes.

**vigilant** ADJ. watchfully awake; alert to spot danger. From the battlement, the *vigilant* sentry kept his eyes open for any sign of enemy troops approaching. **vigilance**, N.

**vigor** N. active strength. Although he was over seventy years old, Jack had the *vigor* of a man in his prime. **vigorous**, ADJ.

**vignette** N. picture; short literary sketch. The *New Yorker* published her latest *vignette*.

**vilify** V. slander. Waging a highly negative campaign, the candidate attempted to *vilify* his opponent's reputation. **vilification**, N.

**vindicate** V. clear from blame; exonerate; justify or support. The lawyer's goal was to *vindicate* her client and prove him innocent on all charges. The critics' extremely favorable reviews *vindicate* my opinion that *The Madness of King George* is a brilliant movie.

**vindictive** ADJ. out for revenge; malicious. Divorce sometimes brings out a *vindictive* streak in people; when Tony told Tina he was getting a divorce, she poured green Jell-O into his aquarium and turned his tropical fish into dessert.

**vintner** N. winemaker; seller of wine. The poet wondered what the *vintners* could buy that would be half as precious as the wine they sold.

**viper** N. poisonous snake. The habitat of the horned *viper*, a particularly venomous snake, is in sandy regions like the Sahara or the Sinai peninsula.

**virile** ADJ. manly. I do not accept the premise that a man is *virile* only when he is belligerent.

**virtual** ADJ. in essence; for practical purposes. She is a *virtual* financial wizard when it comes to money matters.

**virtue** N. goodness; moral excellence; good quality. A *virtue* carried to extremes can turn into something resembling vice; humility, for example, can degenerate into servility and spinelessness.

**virtuoso** N. highly skilled artist. The child prodigy Yehudi Menuhin grew into a *virtuoso* whose *virtuosity* on the violin thrilled millions. **virtuosity**, N.

**virulent** ADJ. extremely poisonous; hostile; bitter. Laid up with a *virulent* case of measles, Vera blamed her doctors because her recovery took so long. In fact, she became quite *virulent* on the subject of the quality of modern medical care. **virulence**, N.

**virus** N. disease communicator. The doctors are looking for a specific medicine to control this *virus*.

**visage** N. face; appearance. The stern *visage* of the judge indicated that she had decided to impose a severe penalty.

**visceral** ADJ. felt in one's inner organs. She disliked the *visceral* sensations she had whenever she rode the roller coaster.

**viscid** ADJ. adhesive; gluey. The trunk of the maple tree was *viscid* with sap.

■ **viscous** ADJ. sticky; gluey. Melted tar is a *viscous* substance. **viscosity**, N.

**vise** N. tool for holding work in place. Before filing its edges, the keysmith took the blank key and fixed it firmly between the jaws of a *vise*.

**visionary** ADJ. produced by imagination; fanciful; mystical. She was given to *visionary* schemes that never materialized. also N.

**vital** ADJ. vibrant and lively; critical; living; breathing. The *vital*, highly energetic first aid instructor stressed that it was *vital* in examining accident victims to note their *vital* signs.

**vitiate** V. spoil the effect of; make inoperative. Fraud will *vitiate* the contract.

**vitreous** ADJ. pertaining to or resembling glass. Although this plastic has many *vitreous* qualities such as transparency, it is unbreakable.

**vitriolic** ADJ. corrosive; sarcastic. Such *vitriolic* criticism is uncalled for.

■ **vituperative** ADJ. abusive; scolding. He became more *vituperative* as he realized that we were not going to grant him his wish.

**vivacious** ADJ. lively or animated; sprightly. She had always been *vivacious* and sparkling.

**vivisection** N. act of dissecting living animals. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals opposed *vivisection* and deplored the practice of using animals in scientific experiments.

**vixen** N. female fox; ill-tempered woman. Aware that she was right once again, he lost his temper and called her a shrew and a *vixen*.

**vociferous** ADJ. clamorous; noisy. The crowd grew *vociferous* in its anger and threatened to take the law into its own hands.

**vogue** N. popular fashion. Jeans became the *vogue* on many college campuses.

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## Test

Word List 49 *Synonyms and Antonyms*

Each of the questions below consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar or opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

721. VENAL (A) springlike (B) honest (C) angry (D) indifferent (E) going
722. VENERATE (A) revere (B) age (C) reject (D) reverberate (E) degenerate
723. VENIAL (A) unforgivable (B) unforgettable (C) unmistakable (D) fearful (E) fragrant
724. VERACIOUS (A) worried (B) slight (C) alert (D) truthful (E) instrumental
725. VERDANT (A) poetic (B) green (C) red (D) autumnal (E) frequent
726. VERITY (A) sanctity (B) reverence (C) falsehood (D) rarity (E) household
727. VESTIGE (A) trek (B) trail (C) trace (D) trial (E) tract
728. VIABLE (A) moribund (B) salable (C) useful (D) foolish (E) inadequate
729. VIAND (A) wand (B) gown (C) food (D) orchestra (E) frock
730. VICARIOUS (A) substitutional (B) aggressive (C) sporadic (D) reverent (E) internal
731. VIGILANCE (A) bivouac (B) guide (C) watchfulness (D) mob rule (E) posse
732. VILIFY (A) erect (B) eulogize (C) better (D) magnify (E) horrify
733. VINDICTIVE (A) revengeful (B) fearful (C) divided (D) literal (E) convincing
734. VIRULENT (A) sensuous (B) malignant (C) masculine (D) conforming (E) approaching
735. VISAGE (A) doubt (B) personality (C) hermitage (D) face (E) armor

Word List 50 *volatile-zephyr*

■ **volatile** ADJ. changeable; explosive; evaporating rapidly. The political climate today is extremely *volatile*: no one can predict what the electorate will do next. Maria Callas's temper was extremely *volatile*: the only thing you could predict was that she would blow up. Acetone is an extremely *volatile* liquid: it evaporates instantly. *volatility*, N.

**volition** N. act of making a conscious choice. She selected this dress of her own *volition*.

**voluble** ADJ. fluent; glib; talkative. An excessively *voluble* speaker suffers from logorrhea: he continually runs off at the mouth! *volubility*, N.

**voluminous** ADJ. bulky; large. A caftan is a *voluminous* garment; the average person wearing one looks as if he or she is draped in a small tent.

**voracious** ADJ. ravenous. The wolf is a *voracious* animal, its hunger never satisfied.

**vortex** N. whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence; predicament into which one is inexorably plunged. Sucked into the *vortex* of the tornado, Dorothy and Toto were carried from Kansas to Oz.

**vouchsafe** V. grant condescendingly; guarantee. I can safely *vouchsafe* you fair return on your investment.

**voyeur** N. Peeping Tom. Jill called Jack a *voyeur* when she caught him aiming his binoculars at a bedroom window of the house next door.

**vulnerable** ADJ. susceptible to wounds. His opponents could not harm Achilles, who was *vulnerable* only in his heel. *vulnerability*, N.

**vulpine** ADJ. like a fox; crafty. She disliked his sly ways, but granted him a certain *vulpine* intelligence.

**waffle** V. speak equivocally about an issue. When asked directly about the governor's involvement in the savings and loan scandal, the press secretary *waffled*, talking all around the issue.

**waft** V. moved gently by wind or waves. Daydreaming, he gazed at the leaves that *wafted* past his window.

**waggish** ADJ. mischievous; humorous; tricky. He was a prankster who, unfortunately, often overlooked the damage he could cause with his *waggish* tricks. *wag*, N.

**waif** N. homeless child or animal. Although he already had eight cats, he could not resist adopting yet another feline *waif*.

**waive** V. give up temporarily; yield. I will *waive* my rights in this matter in order to expedite our reaching a proper decision.

**wake** N. trail of ship or other object through water; path of something that has gone before. The *wake* of the swan gliding through the water glistened in the moonlight. Reporters and photographers converged on South Carolina in the *wake* of the hurricane that devastated much of the eastern seaboard.

**wallow** V. roll in; indulge in; become helpless. The hippopotamus loves to *wallow* in the mud.

**wan** ADJ. having a pale or sickly color; pallid. Suckling asked, "Why so pale and *wan*, fond lover?"

**wanderlust** *N.* strong longing to travel. Don't set your heart on a traveling man. He's got too much *wanderlust* to settle down.

**wane** *V.* decrease in size or strength; draw gradually to an end. To wane is the opposite of to wax or increase in size. When lit, does a wax candle wane?

**wangle** *V.* wiggle out; fake. She tried to wangle an invitation to the party.

**wanton** *ADJ.* unrestrained; willfully malicious; unchaste. Pointing to the stack of bills, Sheldon criticized Sarah for her *wanton* expenditures. In response, Sara accused Sheldon of making an unfounded, *wanton* attack.

**warble** *V.* sing; babble. Every morning the birds *warbled* outside her window. also *N.*

■ **warranted** *ADJ.* justified; authorized. Before the judge issues the injunction, you must convince her this action is *warranted*.

**warranty** *N.* guarantee; assurance by seller. The purchaser of this automobile is protected by the manufacturer's *warranty* that he will replace any defective part for five years or 50,000 miles.

**warren** *N.* tunnels in which rabbits live; crowded conditions in which people live. The tenement was a veritable *warren*, packed with people too poor to live elsewhere.

■ **wary** *ADJ.* very cautious. The spies grew *wary* as they approached the sentry.

**wastrel** *N.* profligate. He was denounced as a *wastrel* who had dissipated his inheritance.

**wax** *V.* increase; grow. With proper handling, her fortunes *waxed* and she became rich.

**waylay** *V.* ambush; lie in wait. They agreed to *waylay* their victim as he passed through the dark alley going home.

**wean** *V.* accustom a baby not to nurse; give up a cherished activity. He decided he would *wean* himself away from eating junk food and stick to fruits and vegetables.

**weather** *V.* endure the effects of weather or other forces. He *weathered* the changes in his personal life with difficulty, as he had no one in whom to confide.

**welt** *N.* mark from a beating or whipping. The evidence of child abuse was very clear; Jennifer's small body was covered with *welts* and bruises.

■ **welter** *N.* turmoil; bewildering jumble. The existing *welter* of overlapping federal and state proclaims cries out for immediate reform.

**welter** *V.* wallow. At the height of the battle, the casualties were so numerous that the victims *weltered* in their blood while waiting for medical attention.

**wheel** *V.* cajole; coax; deceive by flattery. She knows she can *wheel* almost anything she wants from her father.

**whelp** *N.* young wolf, dog, tiger, etc. This collie *whelp* won't do for breeding, but he'd make a fine pet.

**whet** *V.* sharpen; stimulate. The odors from the kitchen are *whetting* my appetite; I will be ravenous by the time the meal is served.

**whiff** *N.* puff or gust (of air, scent, etc.); hint. The slightest *whiff* of Old Spice cologne brought memories of George to her mind.

■ **whimsical** *N.* capricious; fanciful. In Mrs. Doubtfire, the hero is a playful, *whimsical* man who takes a notion to dress up as a woman so that he can look after his children, who are in the custody of his ex-wife. *whimsy*, *N.*

**whinny** *V.* neigh like a horse. When he laughed through his nose, it sounded as if he *whinnied*.

**whit** *N.* smallest speck. There is not a *whit* of intelligence or understanding in your observations.

**whittle** *V.* pare; cut off bits. As a present for Aunt Polly, Tom *whittled* some clothespins out of a chunk of wood.

**whorl** *N.* ring of leaves around stem; ring. Identification by fingerprints is based on the difference in shape and number of the *whorls* on the fingers.

**willful** *ADJ.* intentional; headstrong. Donald had planned to kill his wife for months; clearly, her death was a case of deliberate, *willful* murder, not a crime of passion committed by a hasty, *willful* youth unable to foresee the consequences of his deeds.

**wily** *ADJ.* cunning; artful. She is as *wily* as a fox in avoiding trouble.

**wince** *V.* shrink back; flinch. The screech of the chalk on the blackboard made her *wince*.

**windfall** *N.* fallen fruit; unexpected lucky event. This huge tax refund is quite a *windfall*.

**winnow** *V.* sift; separate good parts from bad. This test will *winnow* out the students who study from those who don't bother.

**winsome** *ADJ.* agreeable; gracious; engaging. By her *winsome* manner, she made herself liked by everyone who met her.

**wispy** *ADJ.* thin; slight; barely discernible. Worried about preserving his few *wispy* tufts of hair, Walter carefully massaged his scalp and applied hair restorer every night.

**wistful** *ADJ.* vaguely longing; sadly pensive. With a last *wistful* glance at the happy couples dancing in the hall, Sue headed back to her room to study for her exam.

**withdrawn** *ADJ.* introverted; remote. Rebuffed by his colleagues, the initially outgoing young researcher became increasingly *withdrawn*.

**wither** *V.* shrivel; decay. Cut flowers are beautiful for a day, but all too soon they *wither*.

**withhold** *V.* refuse to give; hold back. The tenants decided to *withhold* a portion of the rent until the landlord kept his promise to renovate the building.

**withstand** *V.* stand up against; successfully resist. If you can *withstand* all the peer pressure in high school to cut classes and goof off, you should survive college in fine shape.

**witless** *ADJ.* foolish; idiotic. If Beavis is a half-wit, then Butthead is totally *witless*.

**whet** *V.* sharpen; stimulate. The odors from the kitchen are *whetting* my appetite; I will be ravenous by the time the meal is served.



wizardry *n.* sorcery; magic. Merlin amazed the knights with his *wizardry*.

wizened *adj.* withered; shriveled. The *wizened* old man in the home for the aged was still active and energetic.

woe *n.* deep, inconsolable grief; affliction; suffering. Pale and wan with grief, Wanda was bowed down beneath the burden of her woes.

wont *n.* custom; habitual procedure. As was her *wont*, she jogged two miles every morning before going to work.

worldly *adj.* engrossed in matters of this earth; not spiritual. You must leave your *worldly* goods behind you when you go to meet your Maker.

wrangle *v.* quarrel; obtain through arguing; herd cattle. They *wrangled* over their inheritance.

wrath *n.* anger; fury. She turned to him, full of *wrath*, and said, "What makes you think I'll accept lower pay for this job than you get?"

wreak *v.* inflict. I am afraid he will *wreak* his vengeance on the innocent as well as the guilty.

wrench *v.* pull; strain; twist. She *wrenched* free of her attacker and landed a powerful kick to his kneecap.

wrest *v.* pull away; take by violence. With only ten seconds left to play, our team *wrested* victory from their grasp.

writ *n.* written command issued by a court. The hero of Leonard's novel is a process server who invents unorthodox ways of serving *writs* on reluctant parties.

writhe *v.* twist in coils; contort in pain. In *Dances with Snakes*, the snake dancer wriggled sinuously as her boa constrictor *writhe*d around her torso.

wry *adj.* twisted; with-a-humorous-twist. We enjoy Dorothy Parker's verse for its *wry* wit.

xenophobia *n.* fear or hatred of foreigners. When the refugee arrived in America, he was unprepared for the *xenophobia* he found there.

yen *n.* longing; urge. She had a *yen* to get away and live on her own for a while.

yeoman *n.* man owning small estate; middle-class farmer. It was not the aristocrat but the *yeoman* who determined the nation's policies.

yield *n.* amount produced; crop; income on investment. An experienced farmer can estimate the annual *yield* of his acres with surprising accuracy. also *v.*

yield *v.* give in; surrender. The wounded knight refused to *yield* to his foe.

yoke *v.* join together, unite. I don't wish to be *yoked* to him in marriage, as if we were cattle pulling a plow. also *n.*

yokel *n.* country bumpkin. At school, his classmates regarded him as a *yokel* and laughed at his rustic mannerisms.

yore *n.* time past. She dreamed of the elegant homes of *yore*, but gave no thought to their inelegant plumbing.

zany *adj.* crazy; comic. I can watch the Marx brothers' zany antics for hours.

zeal *n.* eager enthusiasm. Wang's *zeal* was contagious; soon all his fellow students were busily making posters, inspired by his ardent enthusiasm for the cause. zealous, *adj.*

■ *zealot* *n.* fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal. Though Glenn was devout, he was no zealot; he never tried to force his religious beliefs on his friends.

zenith *n.* point directly overhead in the sky; summit. When the sun was at its *zenith*, the glare was not as strong as at sunrise and sunset.

zephyr *n.* gentle breeze; west wind. When these *zephyrs* blow, it is good to be in an open boat under a full sail.

## Test

### Word List 50      Synonyms

Each of the following questions consists of a word in capital letters, followed by five lettered words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase that is most nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters and write the letter of your choice on your answer paper.

736. VOLUBLE (A) worthwhile (B) serious (C) terminal (D) loquacious (E) circular

737. VORACIOUS (A) ravenous (B) spacious (C) truthful (D) pacific (E) tenacious

738. VOUCHSAFE (A) borrow (B) grant (C) punish (D) desire (E) qualify

739. WAIF (A) soldier (B) urchin (C) surrender (D) breeze (E) spouse

740. WANTON (A) needy (B) passive (C) rumored (D) oriental (E) unchaste

741. WARRANTY (A) threat (B) guarantee (C) order for arrest (D) issue (E) fund

742. WASTREL (A) refuse (B) spendthrift (C) mortal (D) tolerance (E) song

743. WAYLAY (A) ambush (B) journey (C) rest (D) road map (E) song

744. WELTER (A) heat (B) greeting (C) recovery (D) universe (E) tumult

745. WHINNY (A) complain (B) hurry (C) request  
(D) neigh (E) gallop
746. WINDFALL (A) unexpected gain  
(B) widespread destruction (C) calm (D) autumn  
(E) wait
747. WINSOME (A) victorious (B) gracious (C) married  
(D) permanent (E) pained
748. WIZENED (A) magical (B) clever (C) shriveled  
(D) swift (E) active
749. YEOMAN (A) masses (B) middle-class farmer  
(C) proletarian (D) indigent person (E) man of rank
750. ZEALOT (A) beginner (B) patron (C) fanatic  
(D) murderer (E) leper

# Answer Key

## Test—Word List 1

1. E	6. E	11. A
2. A	7. B	12. E
3. C	8. E	13. A
4. D	9. A	14. D
5. B	10. A	15. C

## Test—Word List 2

16. E	21. A	26. B
17. B	22. A	27. D
18. A	23. B	28. B
19. D	24. B	29. C
20. A	25. B	30. D

## Test—Word List 3

31. C	36. E	41. B
32. C	37. C	42. E
33. D	38. B	43. E
34. D	39. E	44. C
35. A	40. D	45. A

## Test—Word List 4

46. A	51. C	56. E
47. A	52. A	57. C
48. B	53. C	58. D
49. D	54. B	59. D
50. B	55. D	60. C

## Test—Word List 5

61. E	66. A	71. D
62. D	67. C	72. C
63. B	68. C	73. C
64. C	69. B	74. B
65. C	70. C	75. D

## Test—Word List 6

76. D	81. A	86. C
77. B	82. B	87. A
78. D	83. B	88. E
79. A	84. E	89. E
80. E	85. E	90. C

## Test—Word List 7

91. B	96. B	101. D
92. B	97. A	102. B
93. B	98. D	103. A
94. D	99. B	104. A
95. B	100. C	105. B

## Test—Word List 8

106. D	111. B	116. B
107. E	112. A	117. D
108. A	113. D	118. A
109. C	114. C	119. C
110. E	115. D	120. B

## Test—Word List 9

121. D	126. E	131. A
122. E	127. A	132. D
123. E	128. D	133. C
124. C	129. B	134. B
125. C	130. E	135. A

## Test—Word List 10

136. E	141. B	146. E
137. B	142. E	147. E
138. D	143. D	148. C
139. C	144. D	149. A
140. A	145. D	150. D

## Test—Word List 11

151. B	156. C	161. B
152. B	157. C	162. D
153. A	158. E	163. D
154. A	159. E	164. A
155. A	160. B	165. B

## Test—Word List 12

166. C	171. C	176. B
167. B	172. B	177. B
168. C	173. A	178. A
169. D	174. A	179. C
170. D	175. B	180. A

## Test—Word List 13

181. A	186. A	191. C
182. E	187. B	192. B
183. D	188. C	193. E
184. D	189. B	194. A
185. A	190. C	195. A

## Test—Word List 14

196. D	201. C	206. B
197. E	202. C	207. D
198. B	203. C	208. C
199. A	204. B	209. E
200. C	205. B	210. D

## Test—Word List 15

211. C	216. C	221. B
212. A	217. A	222. E
213. D	218. A	223. A
214. D	219. C	224. A
215. D	220. D	225. B

## Test—Word List 16

226. D	231. B	236. A
227. A	232. C	237. D
228. C	233. D	238. C
229. E	234. C	239. A
230. E	235. E	240. B

## Test—Word List 17

241. A	246. C	251. D
242. A	247. A	252. A
243. B	248. A	253. E
244. E	249. C	254. B
245. E	250. D	255. B

## Test—Word List 18

256. A	261. D	266. A
257. A	262. D	267. A
258. C	263. E	268. C
259. D	264. C	269. B
260. A	265. B	270. E

## Test—Word List 19

271. A	276. A	281. A
272. D	277. A	282. D
273. E	278. D	283. C
274. C	279. C	284. B
275. E	280. B	285. C

## Test—Word List 20

286. A	291. A	296. E
287. B	292. A	297. D
288. B	293. D	298. A
289. B	294. C	299. A
290. D	295. C	300. B

## Test—Word List 21

301. B	306. E	311. E
302. B	307. C	312. A
303. C	308. B	313. B
304. C	309. D	314. D
305. C	310. D	315. C

## Test—Word List 22

316. D	321. E	326. C
317. A	322. A	327. C
318. A	323. B	328. A
319. D	324. C	329. B
320. A	325. E	330. D

## Test—Word List 23

331. B	336. A	341. A
332. A	337. D	342. A
333. B	338. C	343. E
334. E	339. C	344. B
335. C	340. D	345. A

## Test—Word List 24

346. C	351. D	356. B
347. B	352. A	357. C
348. C	353. A	358. A
349. A	354. A	359. B
350. B	355. B	360. D

## Test—Word List 25

361. A	366. B	371. E
362. E	367. B	372. B
363. B	368. C	373. D
364. D	369. D	374. C
365. E	370. A	375. A

## Test—Word List 26

376. C	381. B	386. B
377. A	382. A	387. E
378. B	383. C	388. E
379. B	384. C	389. E
380. B	385. C	390. A

## Test—Word List 27

391. A	396. E	401. B
392. D	397. E	402. B
393. B	398. C	403. A
394. D	399. A	404. C
395. B	400. D	405. B

**Test—Word List 28**

406. B 411. B 416. B  
 407. A 412. E 417. A  
 408. E 413. D 418. D  
 409. E 414. E 419. D  
 410. C 415. C 420. A

**Test—Word List 29**

421. B 426. D 431. A  
 422. A 427. E 432. C  
 423. B 428. B 433. B  
 424. B 429. A 434. C  
 425. C 430. E 435. A

**Test—Word List 30**

436. A 441. A 446. E  
 437. A 442. B 447. B  
 438. B 443. D 448. C  
 439. D 444. B 449. E  
 440. C 445. A 450. B

**Test—Word List 31**

451. B 456. A 461. E  
 452. E 457. C 462. C  
 453. C 458. C 463. A  
 454. C 459. A 464. B  
 455. B 460. B 465. A

**Test—Word List 32**

466. B 471. D 476. D  
 467. C 472. C 477. B  
 468. C 473. B 478. A  
 469. A 474. A 479. C  
 470. C 475. B 480. A

**Test—Word List 33**

481. C 486. A 491. E  
 482. B 487. B 492. C  
 483. E 488. C 493. E  
 484. D 489. D 494. B  
 485. B 490. B 495. A

**Test—Word List 34**

496. D 501. B 506. D  
 497. A 502. B 507. D  
 498. D 503. A 508. C  
 499. A 504. E 509. C  
 500. E 505. C 510. A

**Test—Word List 35**

511. A 516. C 521. E  
 512. C 517. B 522. A  
 513. C 518. D 523. C  
 514. C 519. C 524. E  
 515. B 520. A 525. E

**Test—Word List 36**

526. A 531. E 536. A  
 527. D 532. B 537. D  
 528. A 533. C 538. D  
 529. B 534. C 539. D  
 530. E 535. B 540. D

**Test—Word List 37**

541. C 546. A 551. A  
 542. C 547. A 552. C  
 543. D 548. C 553. E  
 544. E 549. B 554. B  
 545. C 550. A 555. A

**Test—Word List 38**

556. E 561. E 566. A  
 557. D 562. E 567. D  
 558. C 563. B 568. C  
 559. B 564. A 569. D  
 560. B 565. E 570. C

**Test—Word List 39**

571. B 576. C 581. C  
 572. B 577. D 582. B  
 573. E 578. B 583. A  
 574. A 579. C 584. D  
 575. A 580. E 585. A

**Test—Word List 40**

586. E 591. C 596. D  
 587. B 592. A 597. D  
 588. D 593. B 598. B  
 589. C 594. A 599. D  
 590. A 595. D 600. E

**Test—Word List 41**

601. E 606. B 611. C  
 602. B 607. B 612. D  
 603. A 608. A 613. B  
 604. D 609. D 614. A  
 605. A 610. B 615. A

**Test—Word List 42**

616. C 621. D 626. B  
 617. A 622. E 627. D  
 618. B 623. A 628. A  
 619. C 624. D 629. D  
 620. D 625. C 630. E

**Test—Word List 43**

631. C 636. C 641. D  
 632. C 637. E 642. A  
 633. E 638. C 643. E  
 634. A 639. E 644. A  
 635. C 640. D 645. B

**Test—Word List 44**

646. A 651. B 656. A  
 647. B 652. A 657. B  
 648. D 653. D 658. A  
 649. A 654. C 659. C  
 650. E 655. C 660. C

**Test—Word List 45**

661. C 666. C 671. C  
 662. C 667. B 672. D  
 663. A 668. A 673. A  
 664. C 669. A 674. D  
 665. B 670. A 675. A

**Test—Word List 46**

676. D 681. D 686. B  
 677. B 682. B 687. A  
 678. B 683. A 688. B  
 679. C 684. E 689. E  
 680. C 685. B 690. C

**Test—Word List 47**

691. A 696. A 701. A  
 692. D 697. C 702. D  
 693. B 698. B 703. B  
 694. C 699. C 704. D  
 695. A 700. E 705. E

**Test—Word List 48**

706. A 711. B 716. D  
 707. A 712. B 717. D  
 708. B 713. A 718. C  
 709. C 714. A 719. B  
 710. C 715. E 720. C

**Test—Word List 49**

721. B 726. C 731. C  
 722. A 727. C 732. B  
 723. A 728. A 733. A  
 724. D 729. C 734. B  
 725. B 730. A 735. D

**Test—Word List 50**

736. D 741. B 746. A  
 737. A 742. B 747. B  
 738. B 743. A 748. C  
 739. B 744. E 749. B  
 740. E 745. D 750. C

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